



MARVEL
POP
ART 12¢
PRODUCTIONS

the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE



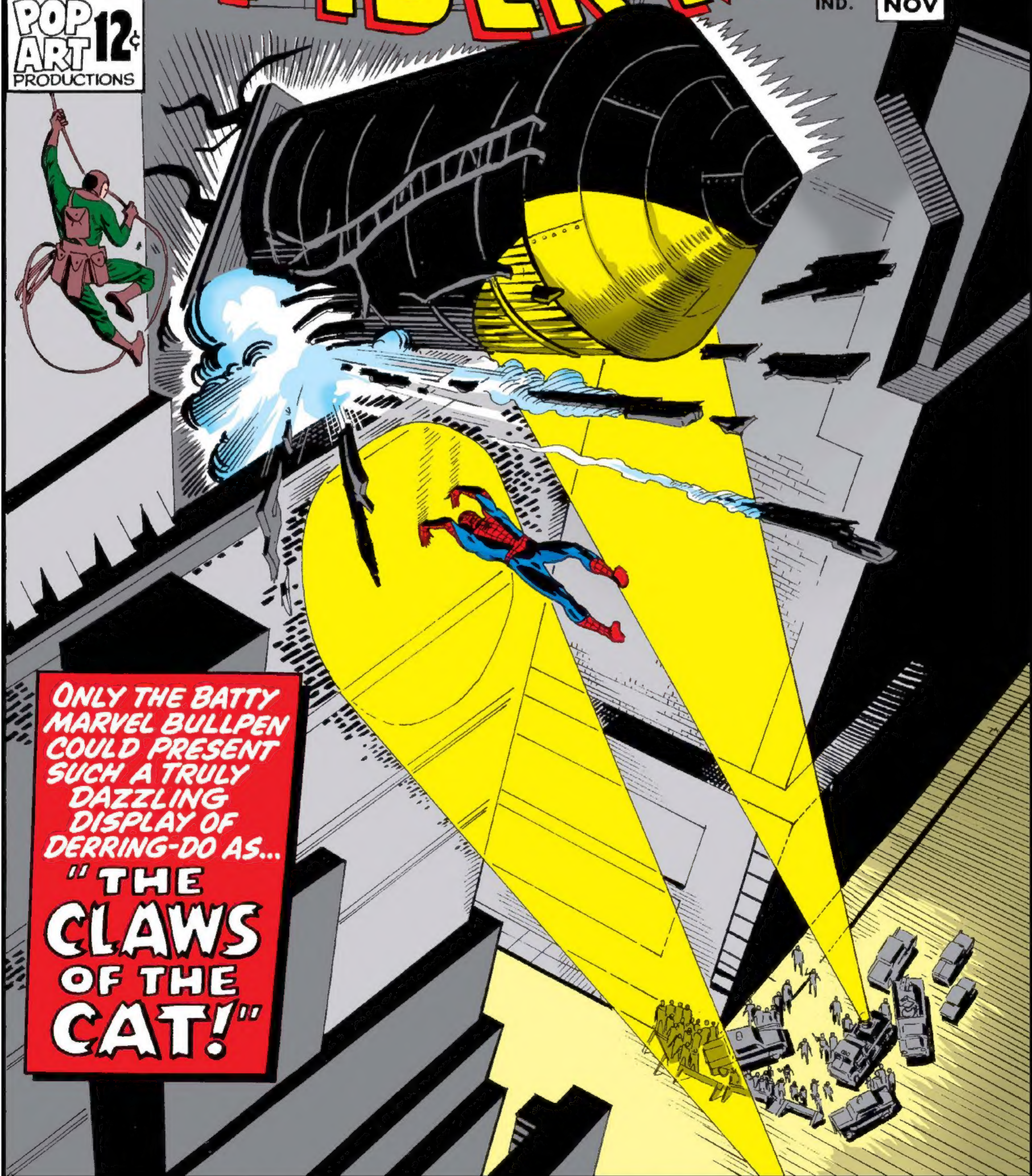
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NOV

IND.



ONLY THE BATTY
MARVEL BULLPEN
COULD PRESENT
SUCH A TRULY
DAZZLING
DISPLAY OF
DERRING-DO AS...

"THE
CLAWS
OF THE
CAT!"





"THE CLAWS OF THE CAT!"

IN WHICH OUR WEB-SPINNING WONDER ENCOUNTERS A BRAND NEW FOE, WHILE FINDING HIMSELF STILL BESET BY THE SAME OLD PROBLEMS! IT IS MORE THAN LIKELY THAT THIS LITTLE EXCURSION INTO ADVENTURE WILL MEET WITH YOUR UNQUALIFIED APPROVAL!



HEROICALLY WRITTEN
AND EDITED BY:
STAN LEE

HOMERICALLY PLOTTED
AND DRAWN BY:
STEVE DITKO

HASTILY LETTERED
AND BORDERED BY:
ARTIE SIMEK

AND NOW, WE BRING YOU ONE OF
THE MOST EAGERLY AWAITED
MOMENTS OF ALL-- THE MOMENT
YOU BEGIN TO READ ANOTHER
MIGHTY MARVEL MASTERWORK...

LAST ISSUE, SHAKEN BY THE THREAT OF THE SCORPION, BETTY BRANT WAS ESCORTED HOME BY SPIDEY'S RIVAL FOR HER AFFECTIONS-- NED LEEDS--

WHAT WOULD I HAVE DONE WITHOUT YOU, NED?

JUST YOU REST UP, BETTY! I'LL CALL LATER!

I'LL LOOK AFTER HER NOW! SHE'LL BE ALL RIGHT!

FRUSTRATED AND ANGRY BY THE SUDDEN TURN OF EVENTS, OUR HERO DID NOT REALIZE THAT HIS ELDERLY AUNT MAY WAS ATTEMPTING TO CONCEAL HER FAINTING SPELLS FROM HIM...

I MUSTN'T WORRY PETER BY LETTING HIM KNOW HOW I'VE BEEN FEELING--!

THAT NIGHT, WHEN THEIR NEIGHBOR, MRS. WATSON, DROPS BY, PETER BREATHES A SIGH OF RELIEF...

YOU SIMPLY **MUST** COME TO THE MOVIES WITH ME TONIGHT, MAY!

I'D LOVE TO, DEAR! I'LL GET MY HAT!

GREAT! NOW **SPIDER-MAN** WILL HAVE A CHANCE TO PROWL THE CITY!

MINUTES LATER, A SWIFT, SILENT FIGURE EFFORTLESSLY SWINGS OVER THE SHADY STREETS BELOW...

WOULDN'T YOU **KNOW** IT? JUST WHEN I'M IN THE MOOD FOR SOME ACTION, THE CITY'S AS DULL AS JONAH JAMESON'S WISE-CRACKS!

I WONDER IF **BETTY** IS FEELING BETTER BY NOW?

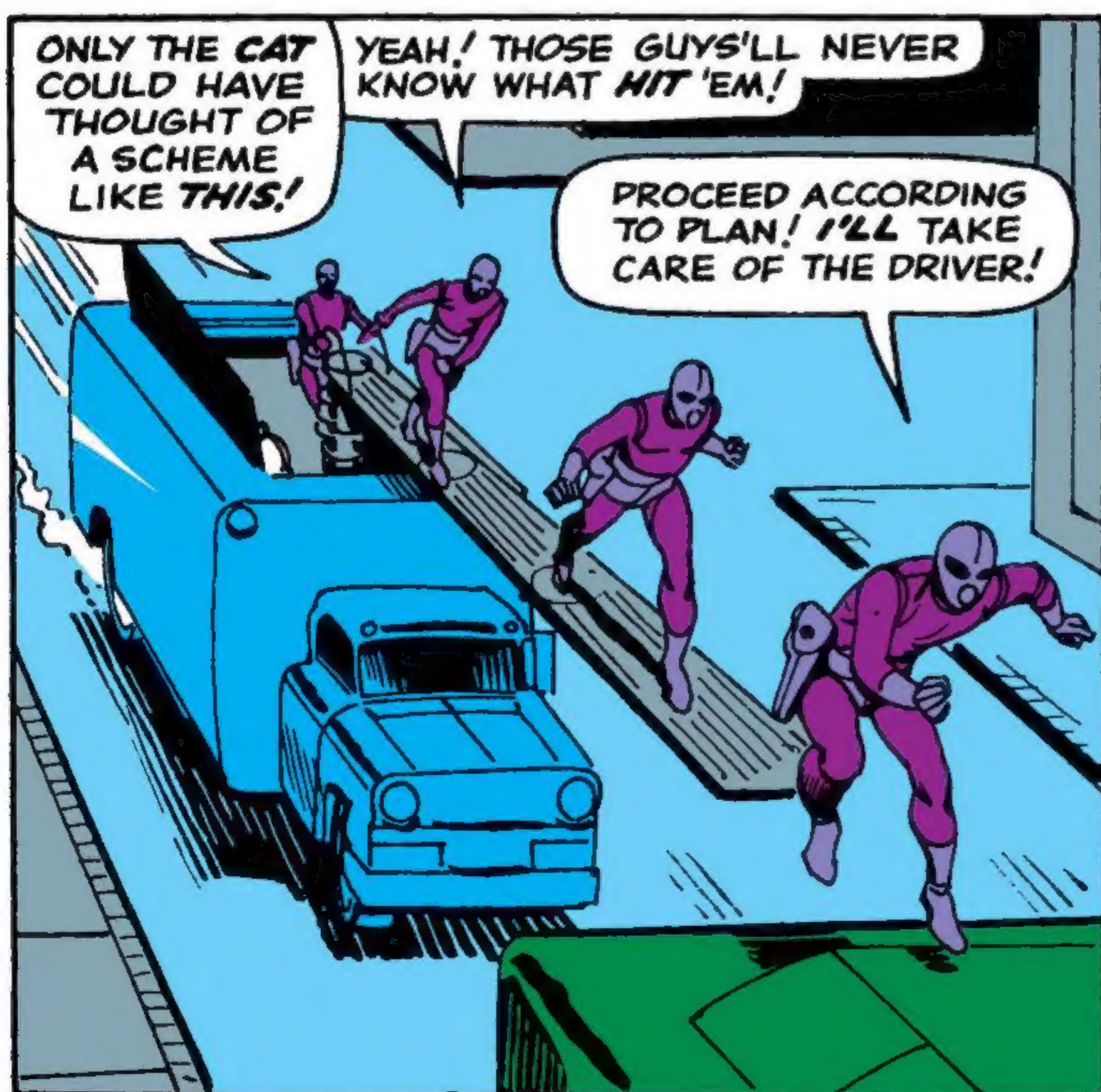
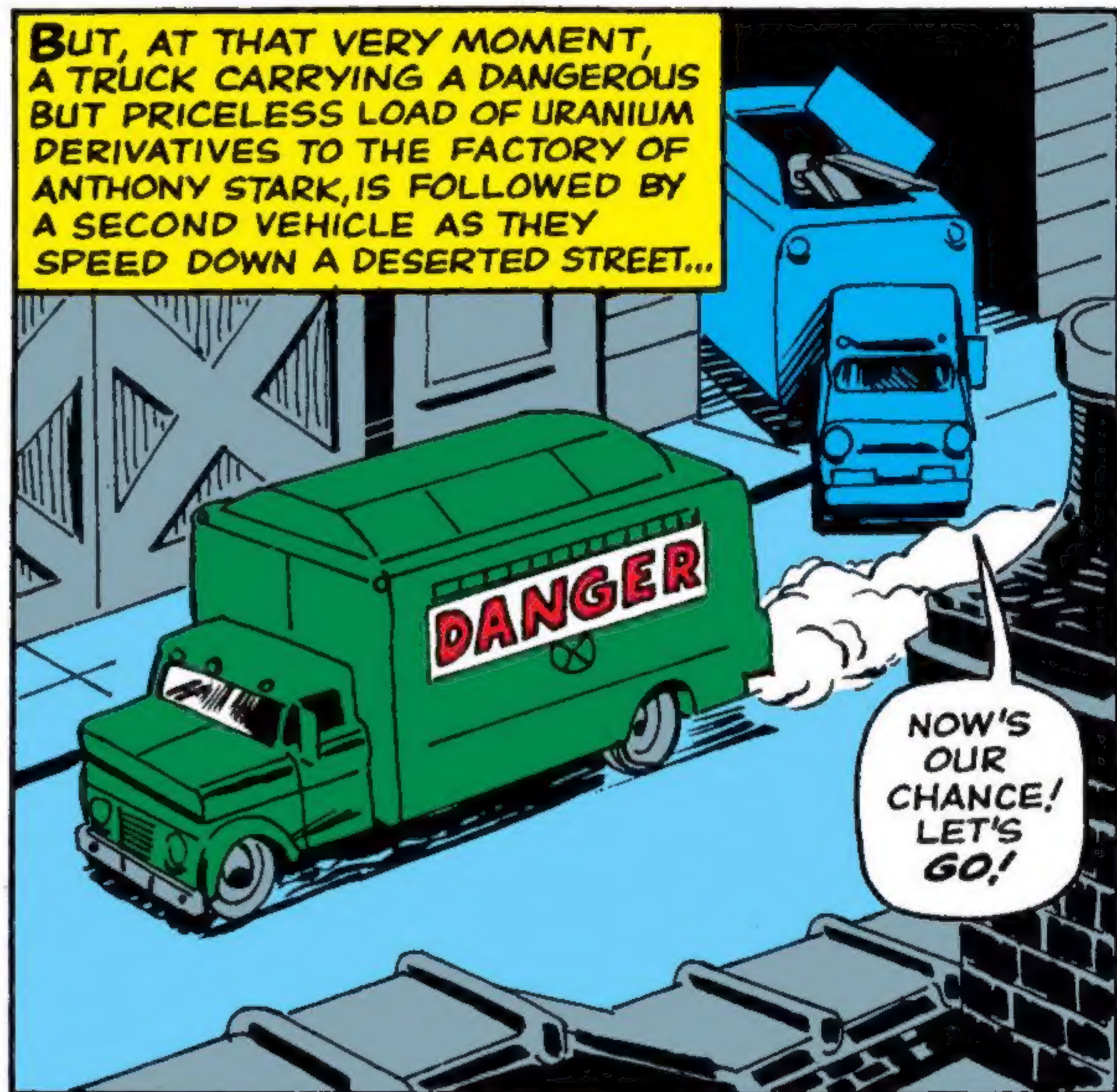
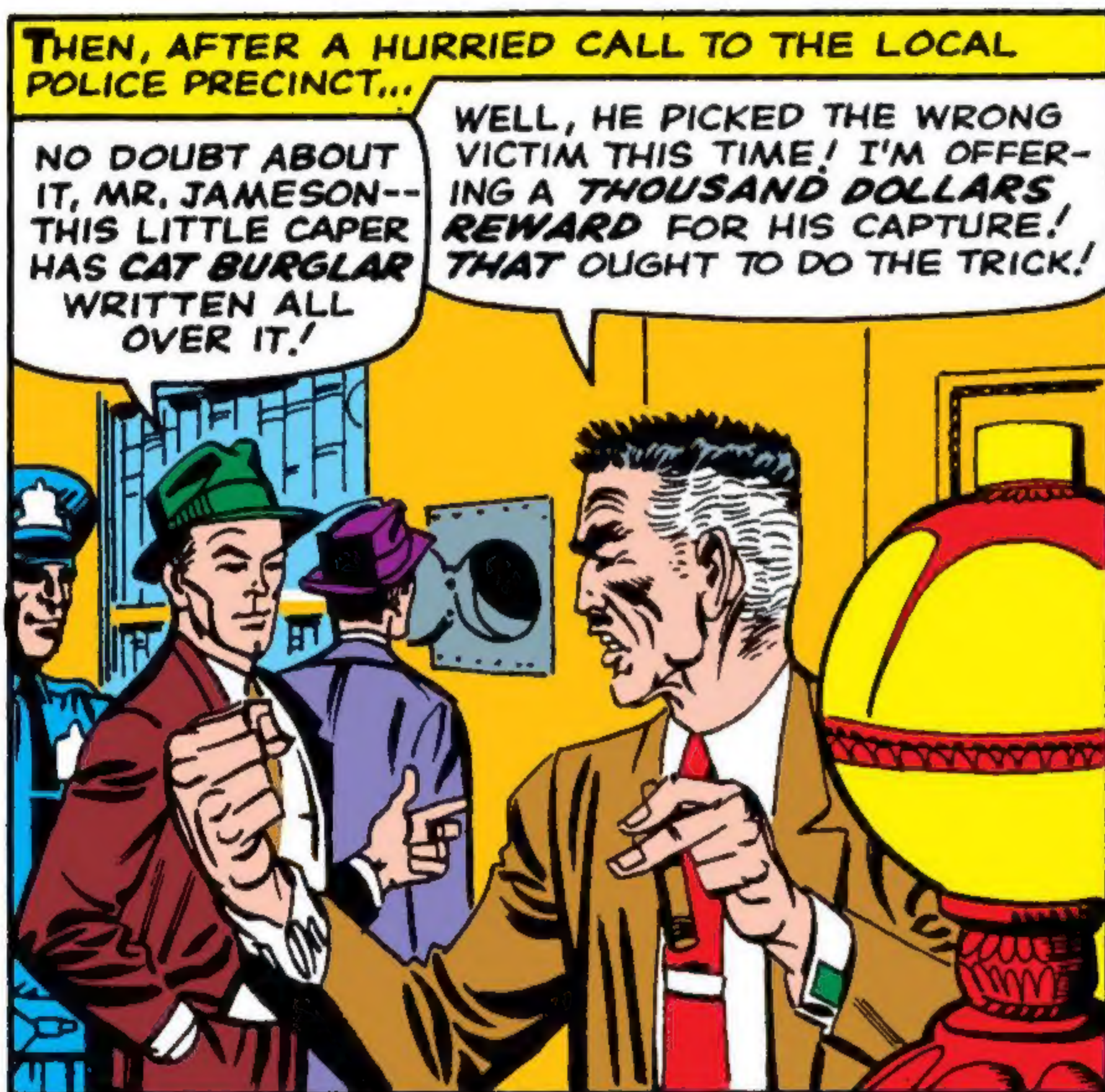
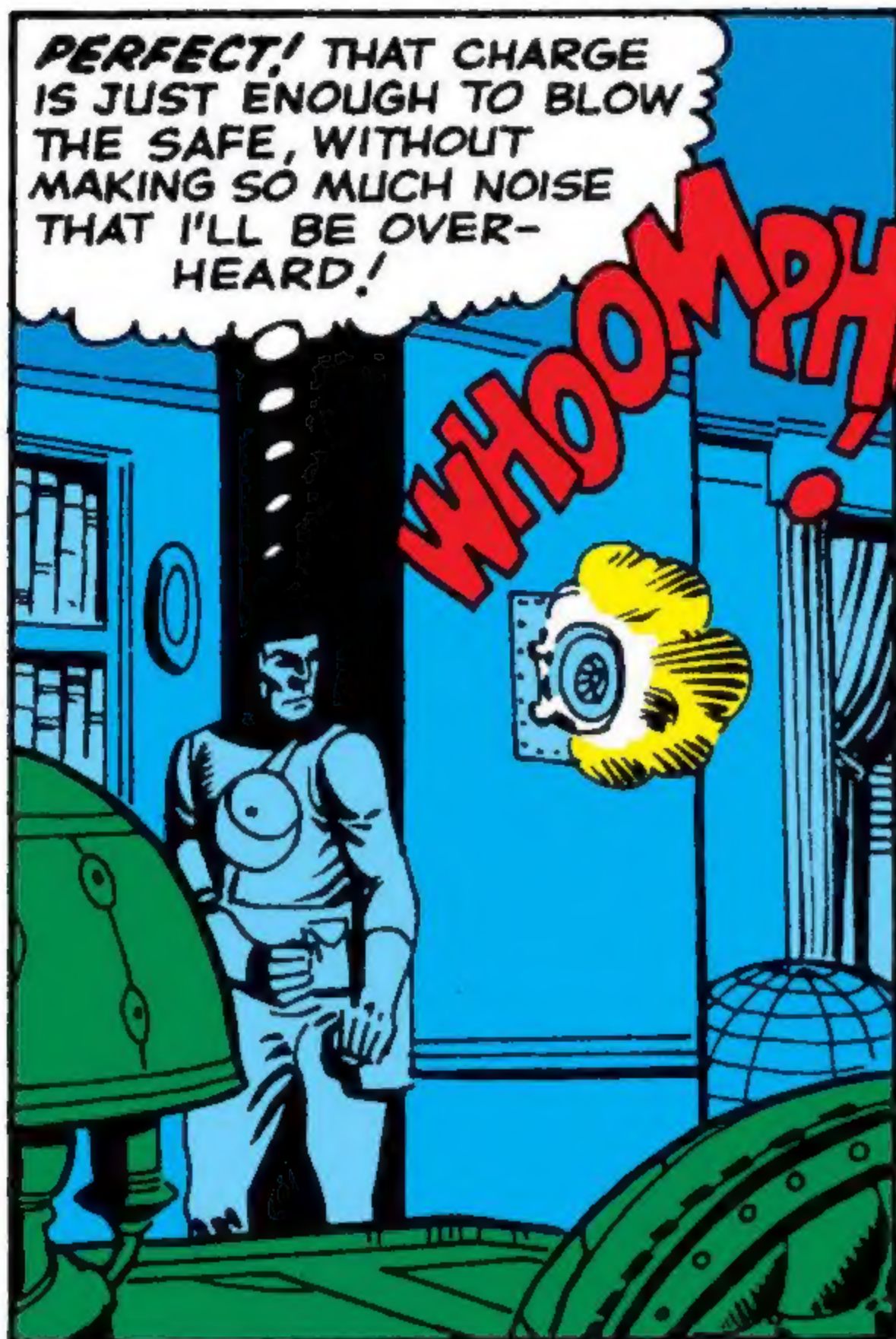
BUT, SO PREOCCUPIED IS HE WITH HIS OWN THOUGHTS, THAT SPIDEY DOESN'T NOTICE...

WHEW--! THAT WAS A CLOSE CALL! IF SPIDER-MAN HAD JUST TURNED HIS HEAD, IT COULD HAVE BEEN THE END OF THE **CAT BURGLAR'S** CAREER!

BUT, I'M JUST SMALL POTATOES TO **HIM**! HE'S ONLY INTERESTED IN SUPER-POWERED WORLD MENACES!

A BURGLAR WHO HAS TO USE A SPECIAL TOOL, JUST TO BREAK A SIMPLE WINDOW LOCK WOULD BE BENEATH HIS NOTICE-- **I HOPE!**

JUST AS I THOUGHT-- THE APARTMENT'S **EMPTY!** A PERFECT SET-UP FOR SOMEONE WITH **MY** PARTICULAR TALENTS!





HI, FELLAS! AWFULLY NICE OF YOU TO SAVE THIS NIGHT FROM BEING A COMPLETE WASHOUT FOR ME!

LOOK OUT, YOU GUYS! IT'S SPIDER-MAN!



NO NEED FOR SUCH FORMALITY! JUST CALL ME SPIDEY!

YOU TAKE THE WHEEL! STEP ON IT--GET READY TO MAKE A SHARP TURN WHEN I GIVE THE SIGNAL!

HE DOESN'T KNOW WE'RE WEARIN' MAGNETIC SHOES, TO HOLD US ON THE TRUCK!

DANGER



MY PLAN WAS PERFECT --- EXCEPT THAT I DIDN'T COUNT ON ANY INTERFERENCE FROM SUCH AN UNEXPECTED SOURCE!

CONGRATULATIONS, BOYS! YOU'VE JOINED THE RANKS OF THOSE WHO'VE BEEN LULLED TO SLEEP BY YOURS TRULY!



HE'S OFF-BALANCE! THIS IS THE TIME! NOW! SWING 'ER AROUND--FAST!

IT WORKED! HE'S FALLING OFF--!

NOW THAT WAS A MIGHTY UNFRIENDLY THING TO DO!

DANGER



ALTHOUGH HURLED FROM THE SPEEDING TRUCK, THE YOUNG WEB-SPINNER'S AMAZING AGILITY ENABLES HIM TO GRACEFULLY CONTACT AND CLING TO THE BUILDING NEARBY--!

WHEN WILL I LEARN NOT TO BE SO OVER-CONFIDENT!



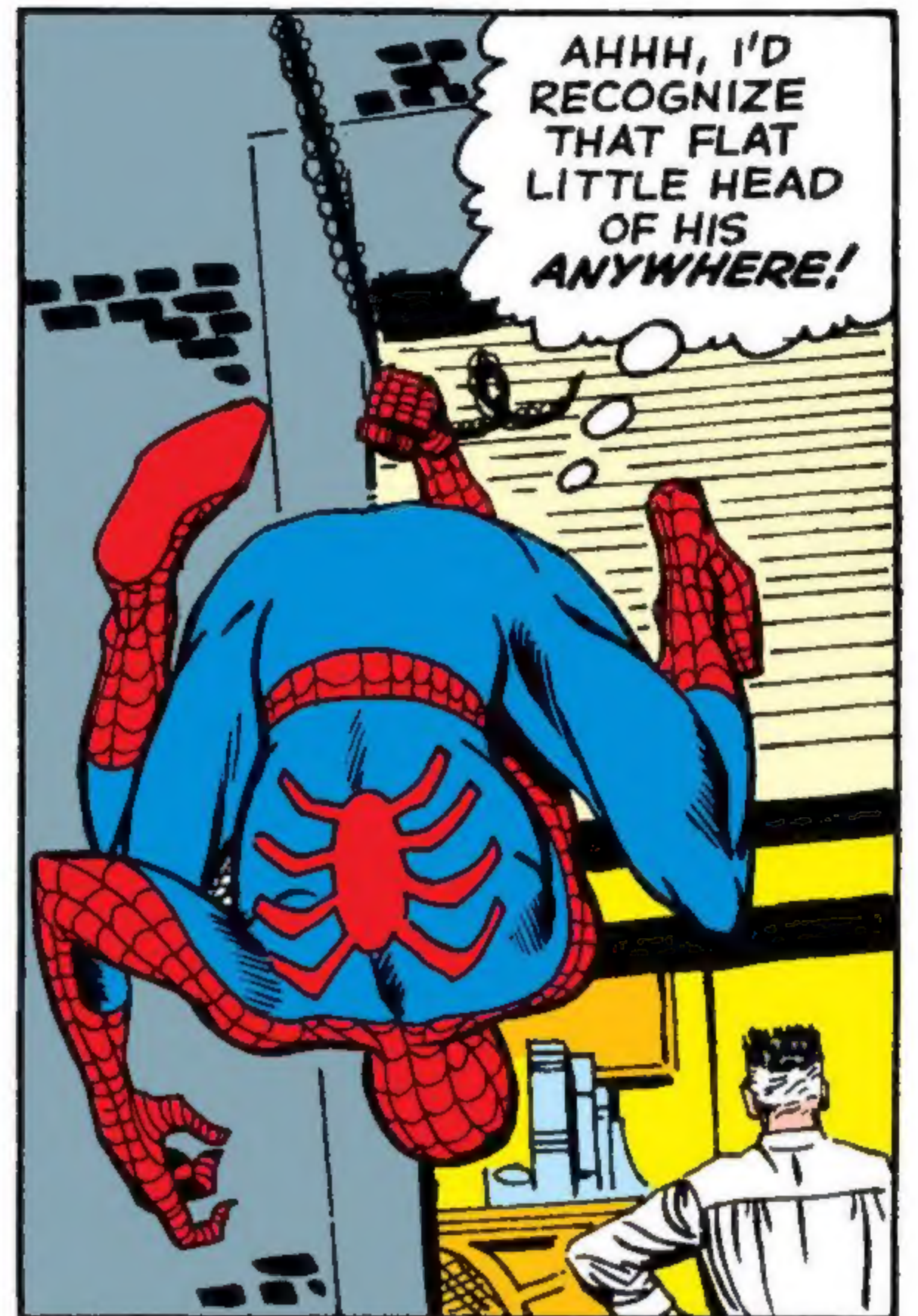
PERHAPS I CAN STILL HEAD THEM OFF BY TAKING TO THE ROOFTOPS!

I SURE WOULDN'T WANNA BE KICKED OUT OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD SPIDER-MAN ASSOCIATION!



NO SIGN OF THEM! BUT, THEY CAN'T STAY HIDDEN FROM ME FOR LONG!

I EAT MY CRUNCHIES AND BRUSH AFTER EVERY MEAL --I'M SURE TO WIN OUT IN THE END!





THERE'S ONLY **ONE** THING TO DO!

FIND **FOSWELL**! GET HIM TO THE PHONE! I WANT TO **TALK** TO HIM! AND **HURRY**!



THIRTY SECONDS LATER...
FOSWELL, DROP EVERYTHING! USE ALL YOUR UNDERWORLD CONTACTS! YOU'VE GOT TO FIND THE CAT BURGLAR BEFORE **SPIDER-MAN** DOES!

I'LL DO MY BEST CHIEF!

WITH THE AID OF MY STOOL-PIGEON **PATCH** DISGUISE!



WHILE, SWINGING BLITHELY OVERHEAD, WE FIND...

THE TRAIL'S PRETTY COLD NOW! I'LL START SEARCHING FOR THE CAT AGAIN TOMORROW!

THIS IS AUNT MAY'S **APPLE PIE** NIGHT! I DON'T WANNA MISS IT!



THEN, AFTER A GOOD NIGHT'S SLEEP...

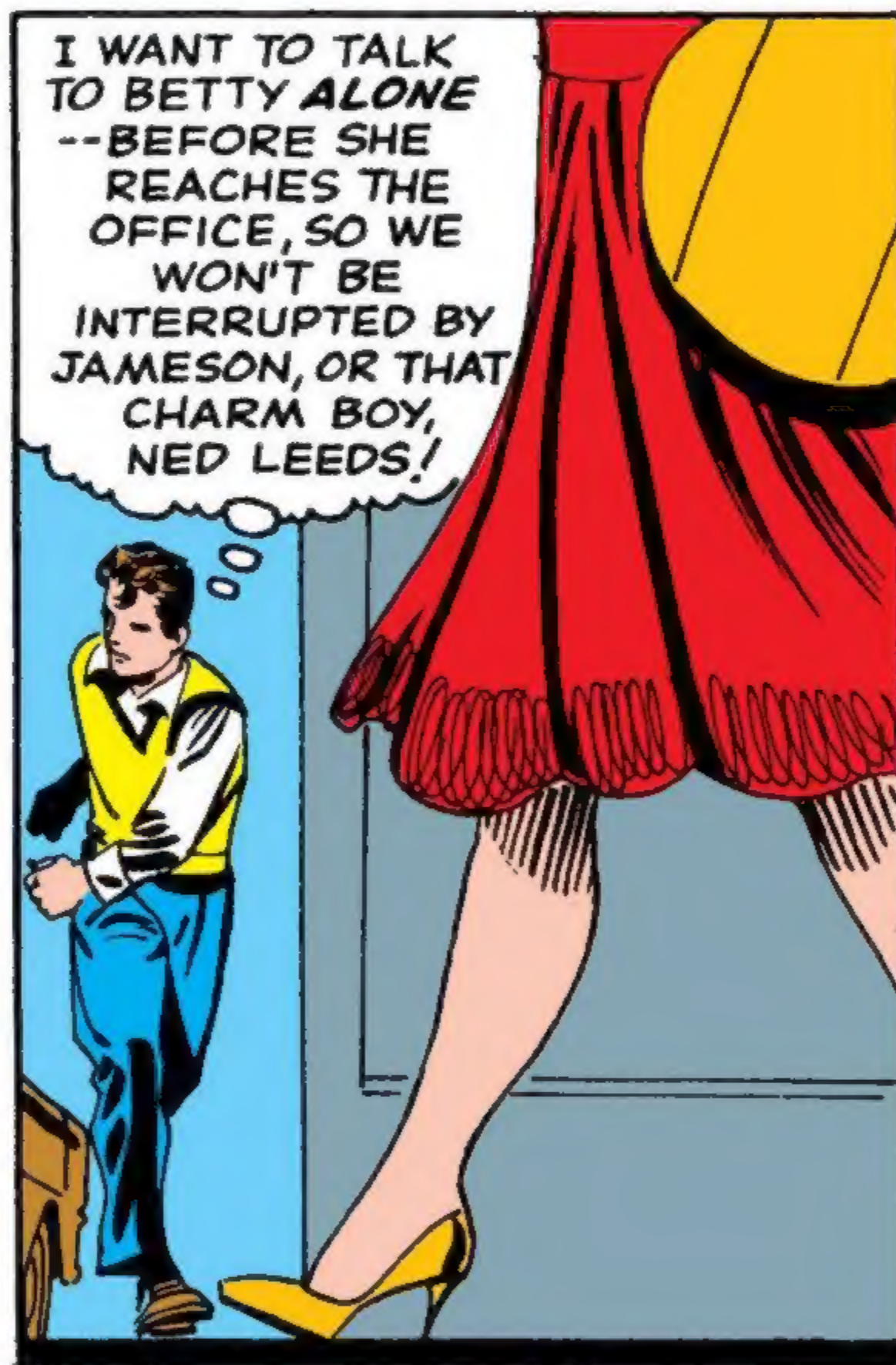
LEAVING SO EARLY, DEAR?

YES, AUNT MAY! I WANT TO CATCH **BETTY** BEFORE SHE GETS TO WORK!

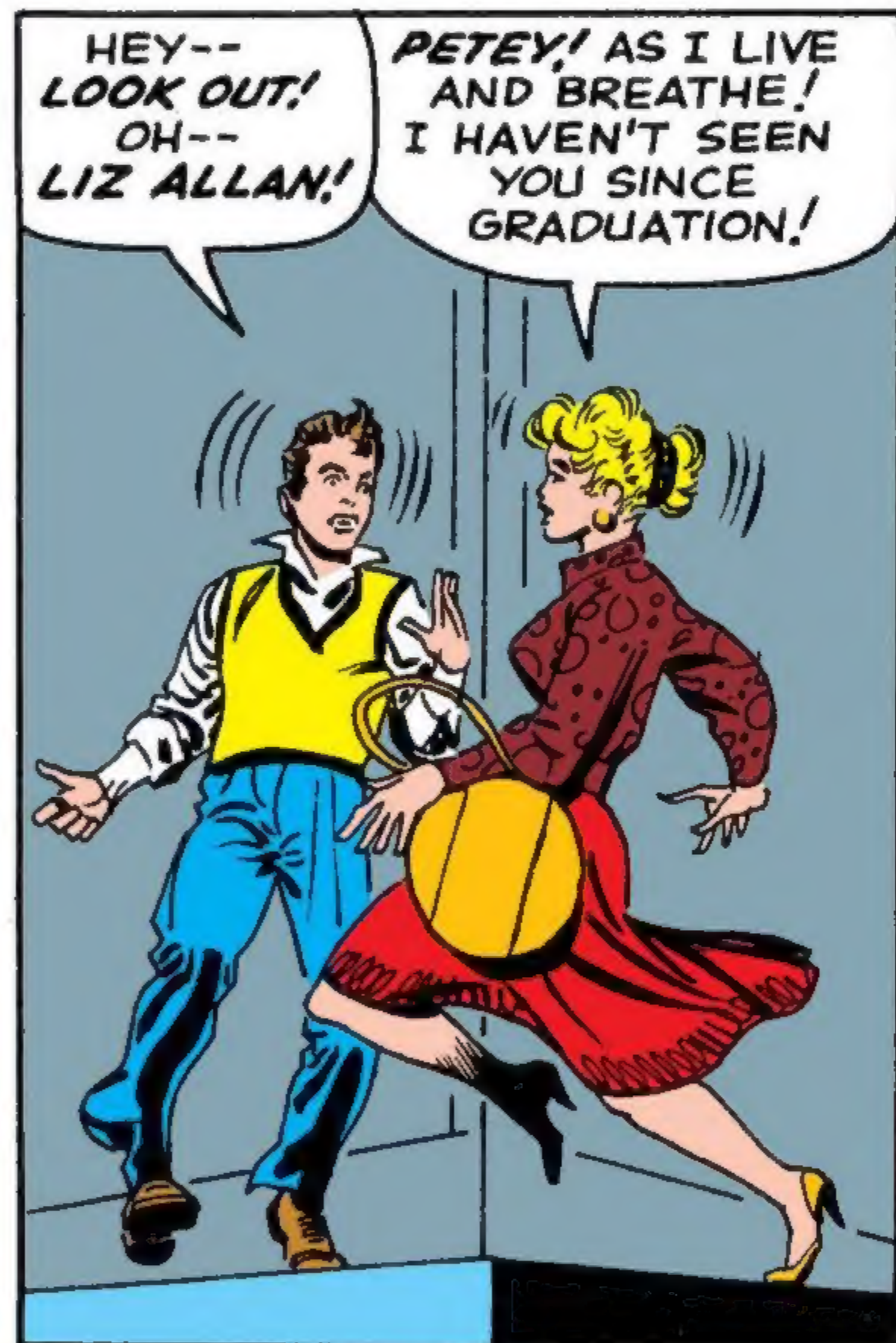
AND THANKS AGAIN FOR THE **APPLE PIE**! IT WAS THE **MOST**!

THE **MOST** WHAT?

JUST AN EXPRESSION, AUNT MAY! S'LONG--!



I WANT TO TALK TO **BETTY** ALONE --BEFORE SHE REACHES THE OFFICE, SO WE WON'T BE INTERRUPTED BY **JAMESON**, OR THAT CHARM BOY, **NED LEEDS**!



HEY-- LOOK OUT! OH-- **LIZ ALLAN**!

PETEY! AS I LIVE AND BREATHE! I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU SINCE GRADUATION!



GEE, **LIZ**-- YOU'RE LOOKING **GREAT**! WHAT'S NEW? WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN DOING WITH YOURSELF?

OH, I'VE TAKEN A **JOB**! I'M A WORKING GIRL NOW! BUT, WHY BORE YOU WITH THE DETAILS! YOU DON'T HAVE TO PRETEND TO BE INTERESTED!



GEE, **LIZ**, I'M NOT PRETENDING--!

WELL, NEVER MIND ABOUT THAT! WOULD YOU DO ME A **FAVOR**, **PETEY**--FOR OLD TIME'S SAKE?

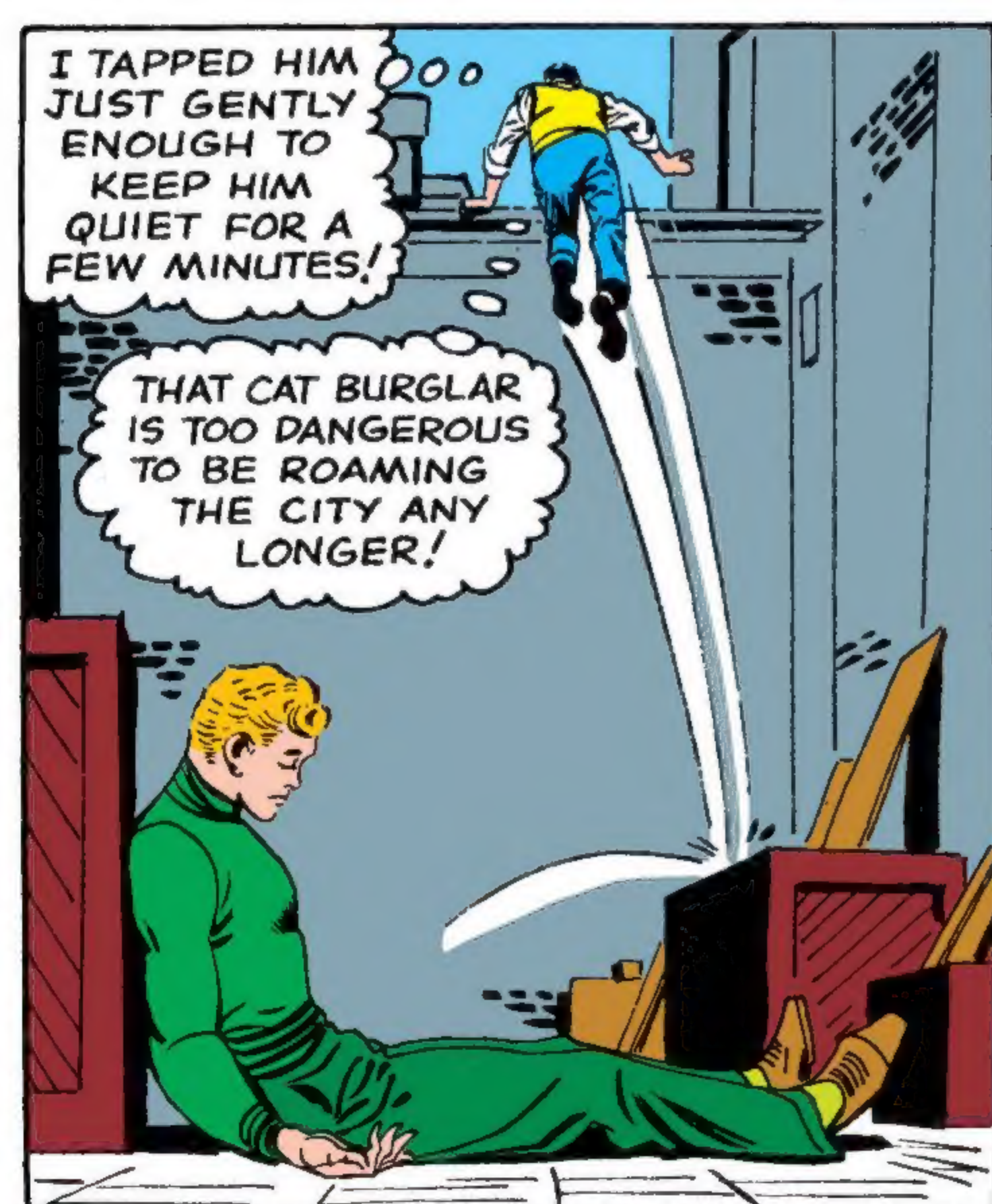
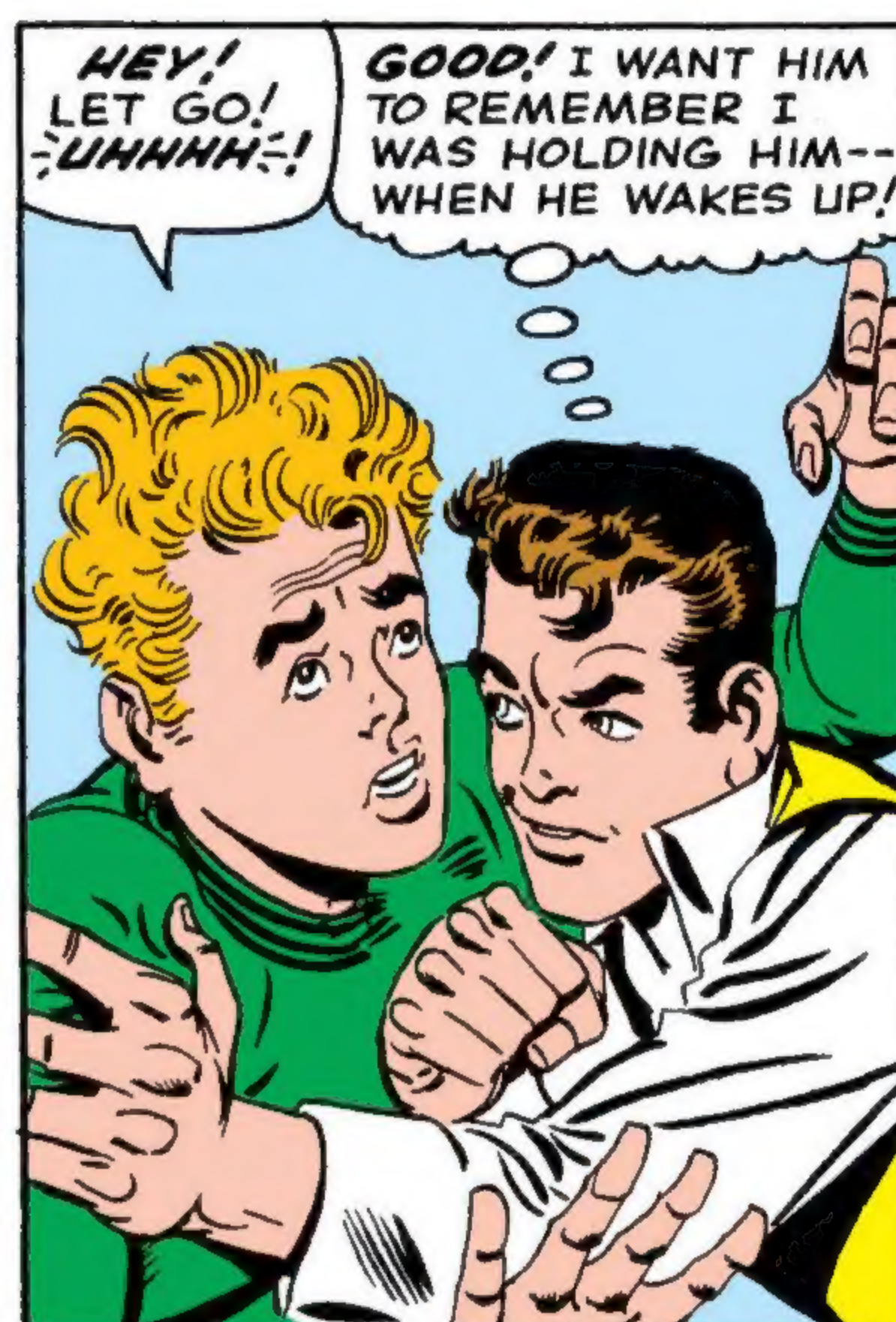
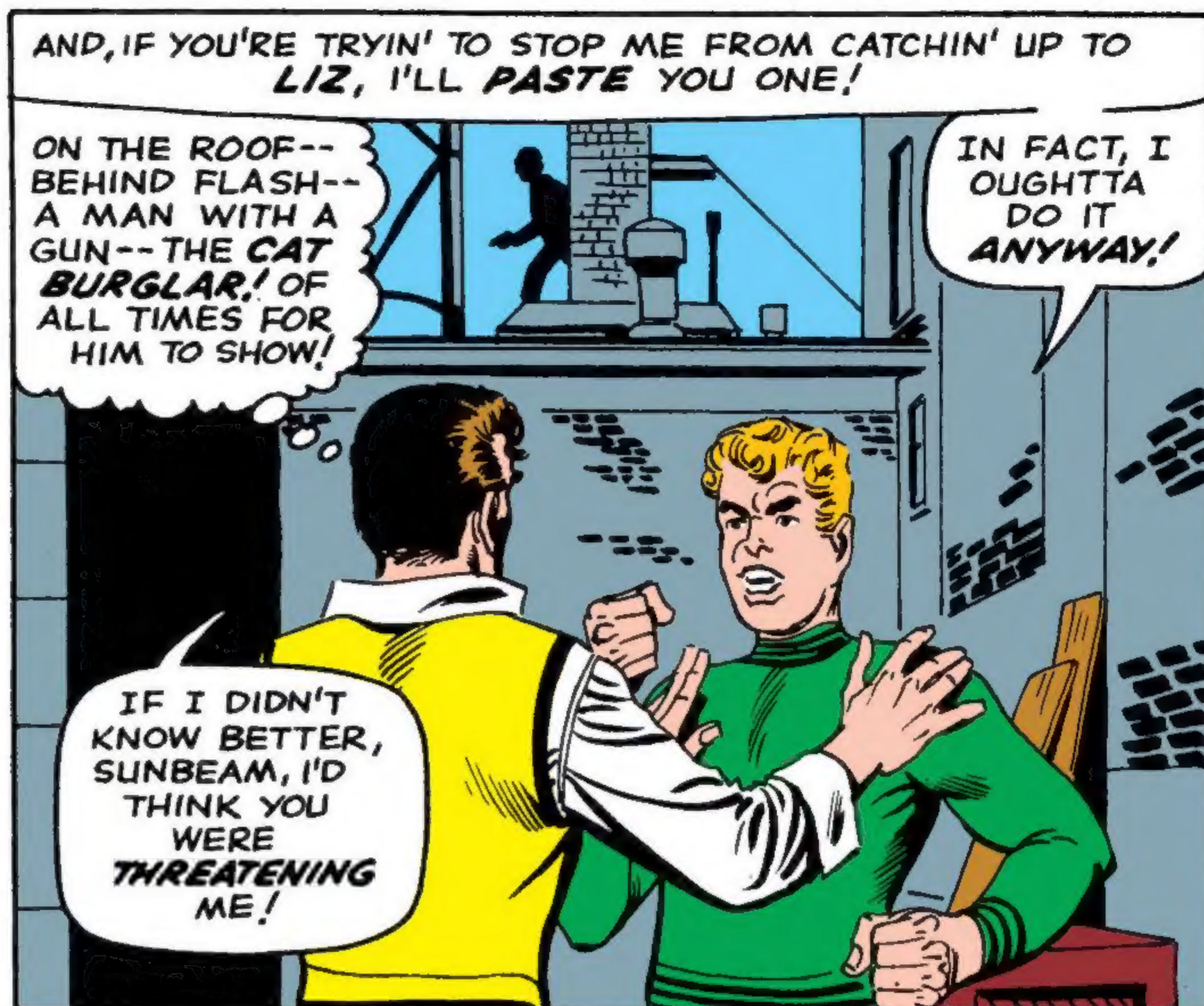
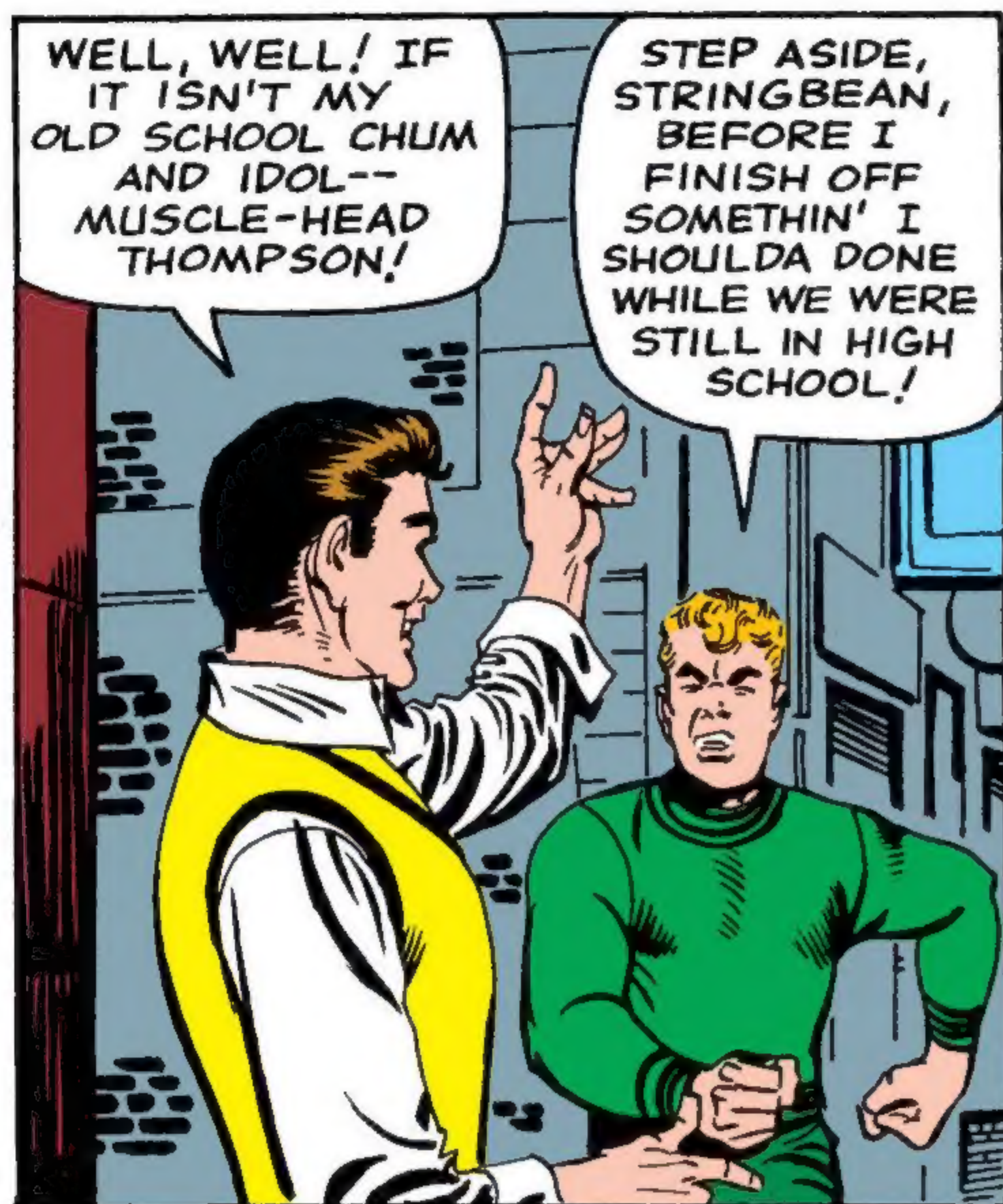
SURE I WILL!



FLASH THOMPSON IS FOLLOWING ME, TO SEE WHERE I WORK! IF HE FINDS OUT, I'LL JUST **NEVER** GET RID OF HIM! WOULD YOU STALL HIM FOR A WHILE!

IT'LL BE A PLEASURE!

WHAT'S SHE DOIN' WITH **PARKER**?





PETER! I'M SO **GLAD** YOU CALLED! I'M GOING TO WORK THIS AFTERNOON, BUT I'D LIKE TO SEE YOU AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!

YOU **WOULD?** STAY RIGHT THERE, BETTY! I'LL BE OVER IN TWO SHAKES!

HEY, YOU LOOK LIKE YOUR OLD SELF AGAIN-- AND THAT'S **TOPS** WITH ME! I'M GLAD YOU'RE FEELING OKAY NOW!

I-I'M **ASHAMED** OF MYSELF FOR BEING SO SHAKEN UP BY THE **SCORPION** THAT TIME-- BUT AT LEAST IT'S ALL OVER NOW!*

*THEY'RE REFERRING TO LAST ISSUE, NATCH! IF YOU MISSED IT, SHAME ON YOU!-- STAN.

WELL, ANYWAY, LET'S HEAR WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND! SOMETHING IN YOUR TONE OF VOICE TELLS ME IT WON'T MAKE ME JUMP FOR JOY!

OH, PETER--I-I DON'T KNOW WHERE TO BEGIN--!

TRY THE **BEGINNING**--JUST FOR KICKS!

WELL, IN A NUTSHELL-- NED HAS ASKED ME TO **MARRY** HIM!

WHEW--! NUTSHELL, MY FOOT! THAT'S A WHOLE PEANUT FACTORY!

I'VE GOT TO THINK FAST! NOW I **HAVE** TO TELL HER THAT I'M **SPIDER-MAN**! THEN, I'LL PROPOSE TO HER **MYSELF**!

I'LL APPROACH IT CASUALLY--DON'T WANT TO **SHOCK** HER TOO MUCH--!

NED'S A GOOD GUY, I GUESS! HE **DID** TRY TO HELP YOU AGAINST THE **SCORPION**! OF COURSE, HE'S NO **SPIDER-MAN**, BUT--

DON'T **MENTION** **SPIDER-MAN**! IF NED WERE ANYTHING **LIKE** HIM, I WOULDN'T EVEN **CONSIDER** HIS OFFER!

WULP--!

I'VE HAD ENOUGH EXCITEMENT IN MY LIFE-- ENOUGH WORRIES! I STILL REMEMBER WHAT HAPPENED TO MY **BROTHER**! I COULD NEVER LOVE AN ADVENTURER-- A MAN WHO RISKS HIS LIFE EACH DAY!

OH--I-I NEVER THOUGHT OF IT THAT WAY--!

I WANT A MAN WHO HAS A GOOD, STEADY JOB-- WHO COMES HOME EACH NIGHT, TO HIS PIPE, AND HIS PAPER--AND TO **ME**!

THAT'S WHAT FIRST ATTRACTED ME TO **YOU**, PETER! YOU WERE SO STUDIOUS--SO SINCERE! YOU WERE A GOOD STUDENT--A HARD WORKER--YOU EVEN WORKED AFTER SCHOOL, TAKING PICTURES, TO MAKE EXTRA MONEY!

WHY--WHY DO YOU **LOOK** THAT WAY? DID I SAY SOMETHING WRONG--?

NO--!



AND SO, THE VARIOUS CHARACTERS IN OUR DRAMATIC LITTLE WEB OF LIFE EACH GO THRU THEIR PACES UNDER THE GUIDANCE OF AN INSCRUTABLE FATE...

IF I HANG AROUND PLACES LIKE THIS LONG ENOUGH, I'LL GET A LEAD ON THE CAT SOONER OR LATER...!



WHILE, FOR A SADDENED PETER PARKER, THE SEARCH FOR THE CAT HAS BECOME ALMOST FORGOTTEN...

THERE'S NO WAY OUT! SHE'D NEVER HAVE ME AS I AM--AND I JUST CAN'T GIVE UP BEING SPIDER-MAN!



SO, SHE'LL END UP MARRYING LEEDS-- AND LIVING THE QUIET, UNEVENTFUL LIFE SHE DREAMS OF! THERE'S ONLY ONE THING I'VE GOT TO FIGURE OUT--

--HOW DO I FORGET ABOUT-- THE GIRL I LOVE??



CRACK!

A SHOT! THAT MEANS TROUBLE!

IT'S JUST WHAT I NEED! ACTION--WORK FOR SPIDER-MAN!



BANK ROBBERS! THIS IS ALMOST TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE!

KEEP RUNNIN'! WE'RE GETTIN' AWAY CLEAN AS A WHISTLE!



CORRECTION, FELLAS! DID YOU EVER HEAR OF A DIRTY WHISTLE??!

WHO SAID THAT?

BEHIND US--! LOOK OUT! IT'S SPIDER-MAN!

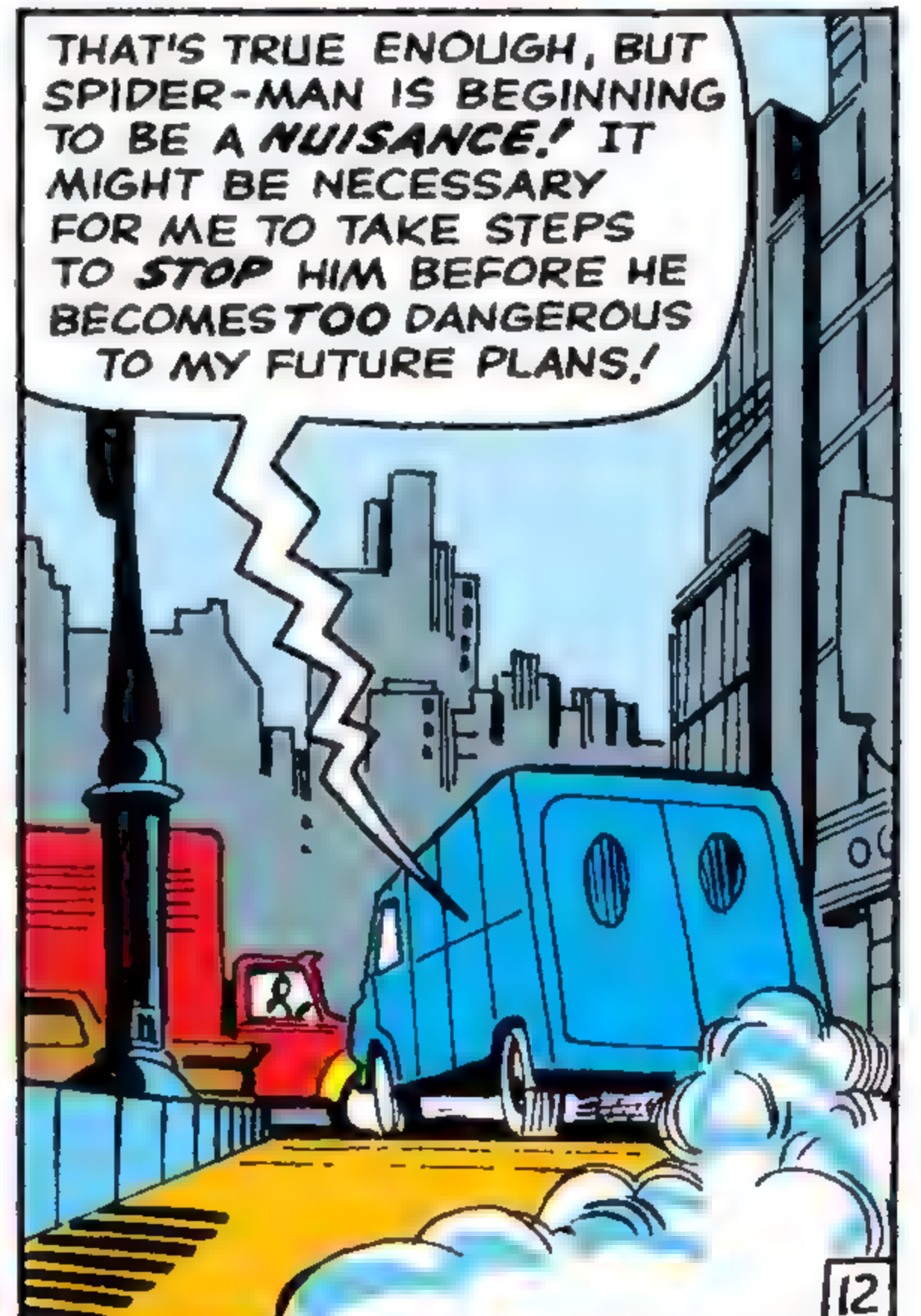
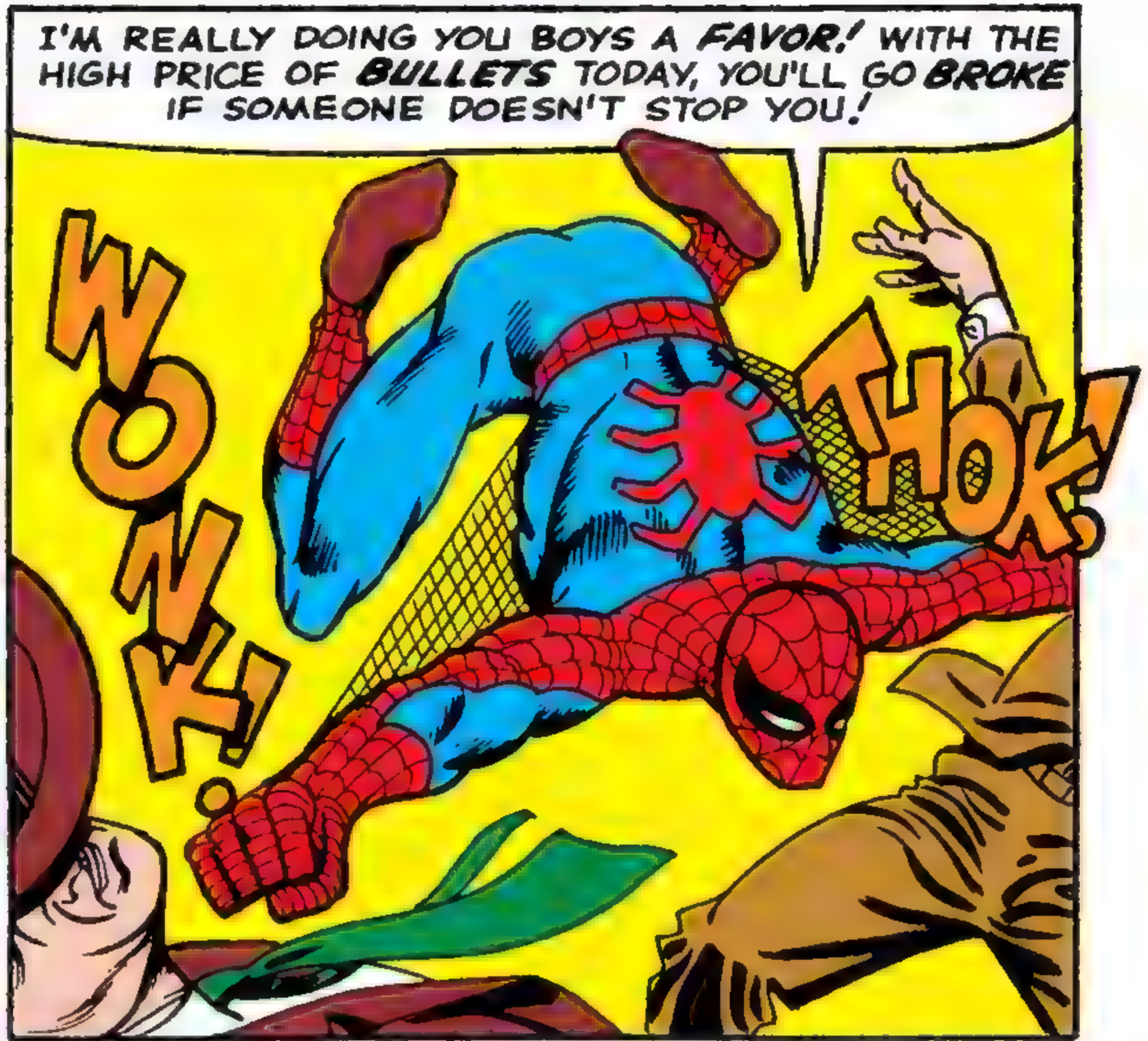


BEHIND US?? WHERE? I DON'T SEE ANYTHIN'!!

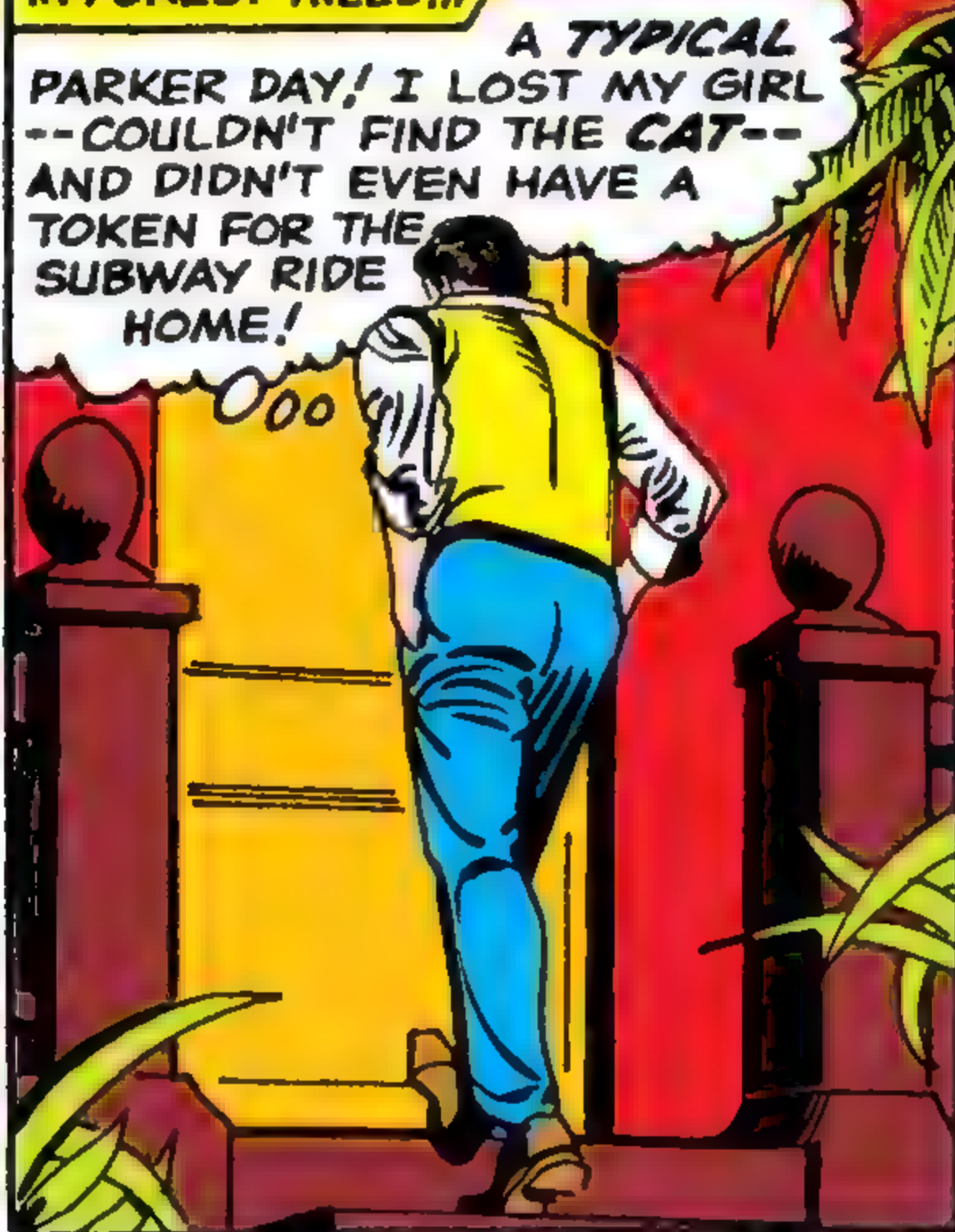
NEITHER DO I!

WHEEEOOOO! OL' SPIDEY RIDES AGAIN!





MINUTES LATER, A CRESTFALLEN YOUNG MAN WEARILY WENDS HIS WAY TO A QUIET LITTLE HOUSE IN FOREST HILLS...



A TYPICAL PARKER DAY! I LOST MY GIRL --COULDN'T FIND THE CAT-- AND DIDN'T EVEN HAVE A TOKEN FOR THE SUBWAY RIDE HOME!

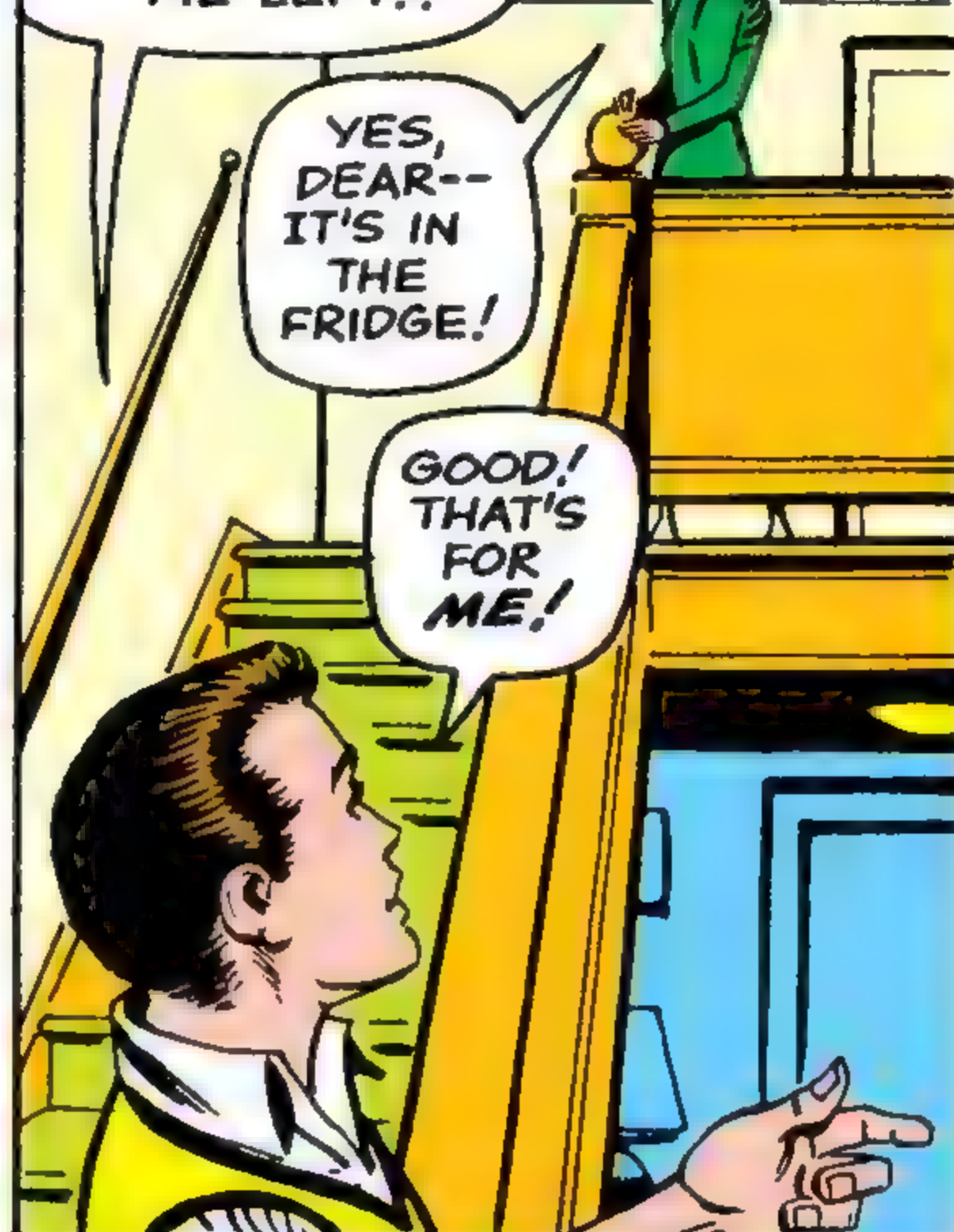
WHILE, IN HER BEDROOM UPSTAIRS...



FOOTSTEPS! IT MUST BE PETER, RETURNING!

I MUSTN'T LET HIM REALIZE THAT I FELT SO DIZZY I HAD TO LIE DOWN....!

HI, AUNT MAY! GOT ANY OF THAT GROOVY APPLE PIE LEFT??



YES, DEAR-- IT'S IN THE FRIDGE!

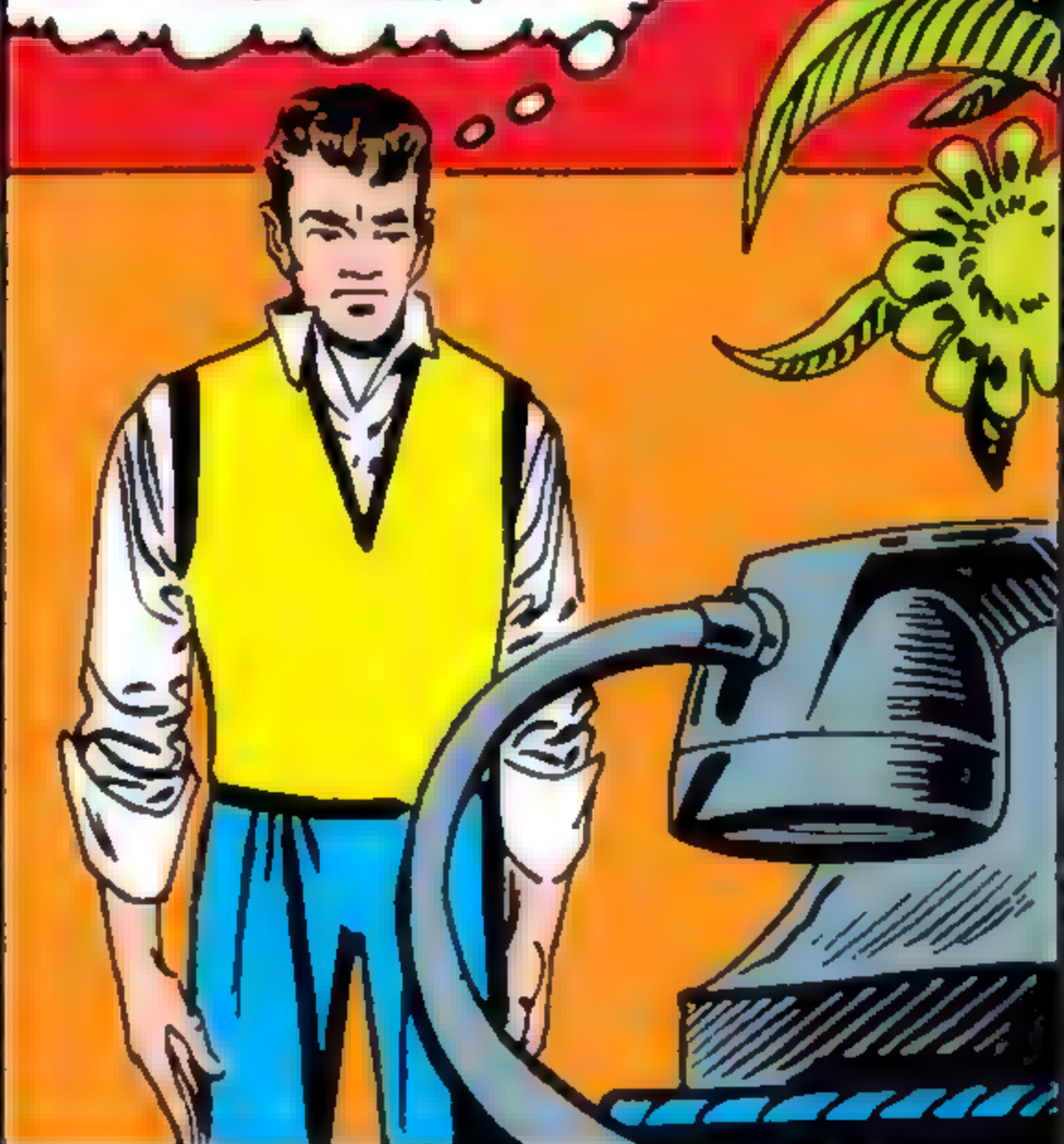
GOOD! THAT'S FOR ME!

BY THE WAY, PETER-- BETTY BRANT CALLED QUITE A FEW TIMES! SHE ASKED ME TO BE SURE TO HAVE YOU CALL HER WHEN YOU CAME IN!



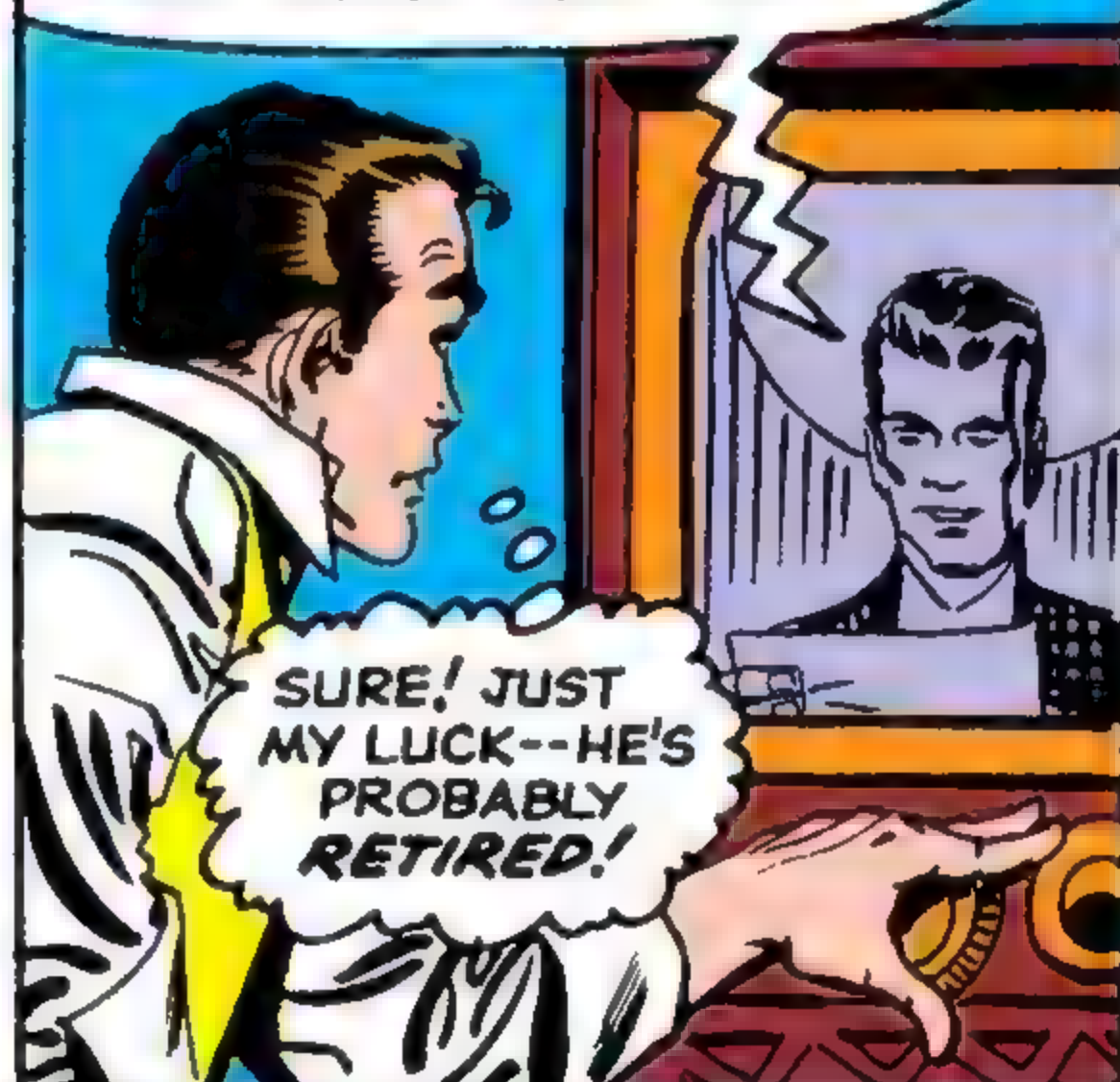
OH NO!

WHAT'S THE USE OF PROLONGING THE AGONY! THERE'S NOTHING MORE THAT EITHER OF US CAN SAY! IT'S ALL OVER-- I MIGHT AS WELL LET IT REMAIN THAT WAY!



THEN, AFTER A PIECE OF APPLE PIE WHICH THE SADDENED YOUTH HAS EATEN OUT OF SHEER HABIT, HARDLY TASTING A MOUTHFUL...

AS YET, JONAH JAMESON'S THOUSAND DOLLAR REWARD FOR THE CAT IS STILL UNCLAIMED! HE HAS NOT BEEN HEARD FROM SINCE--



SURE! JUST MY LUCK-- HE'S PROBABLY RETIRED!

BUT, ANOTHER IS WATCHING THAT SAME NEWSCAST-- A COLD-EYED MAN CHORTLES IN GRIM SELF-SATISFACTION...

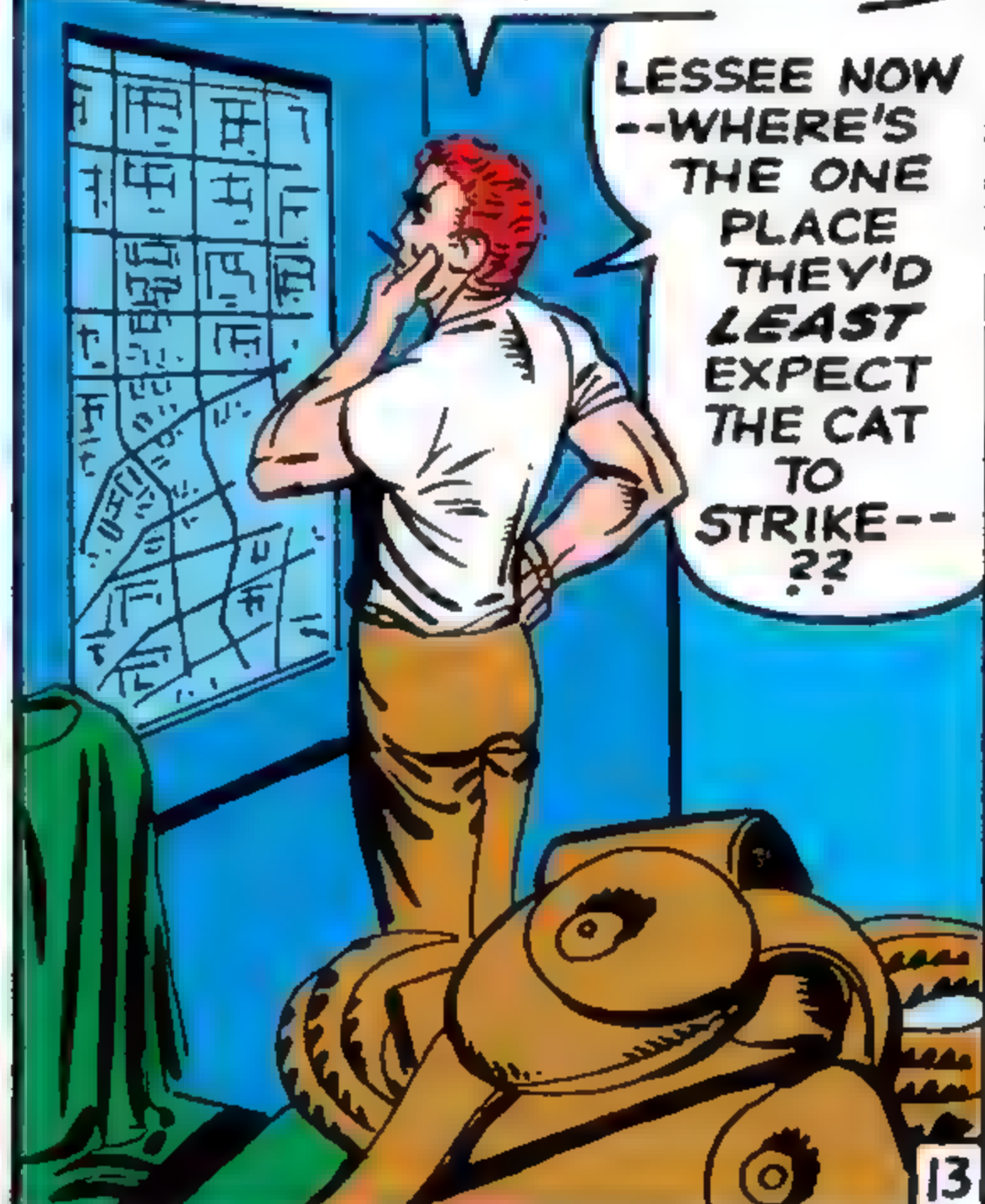


SO FAR, SO GOOD! NOBODY SUSPECTS THAT AN ORDINARY SECOND-STORY MAN LIKE ME IS ALSO THE UNCAUGHT CAT BURGLAR!

THE POLICE CAN'T WATCH EVERY BUILDING IN TOWN! I OUGHTTA TRY ONE MORE HAUL BEFORE I DECIDE TO LAY LOW FOR A WHILE --JUST TO KEEP MY HAND IN!

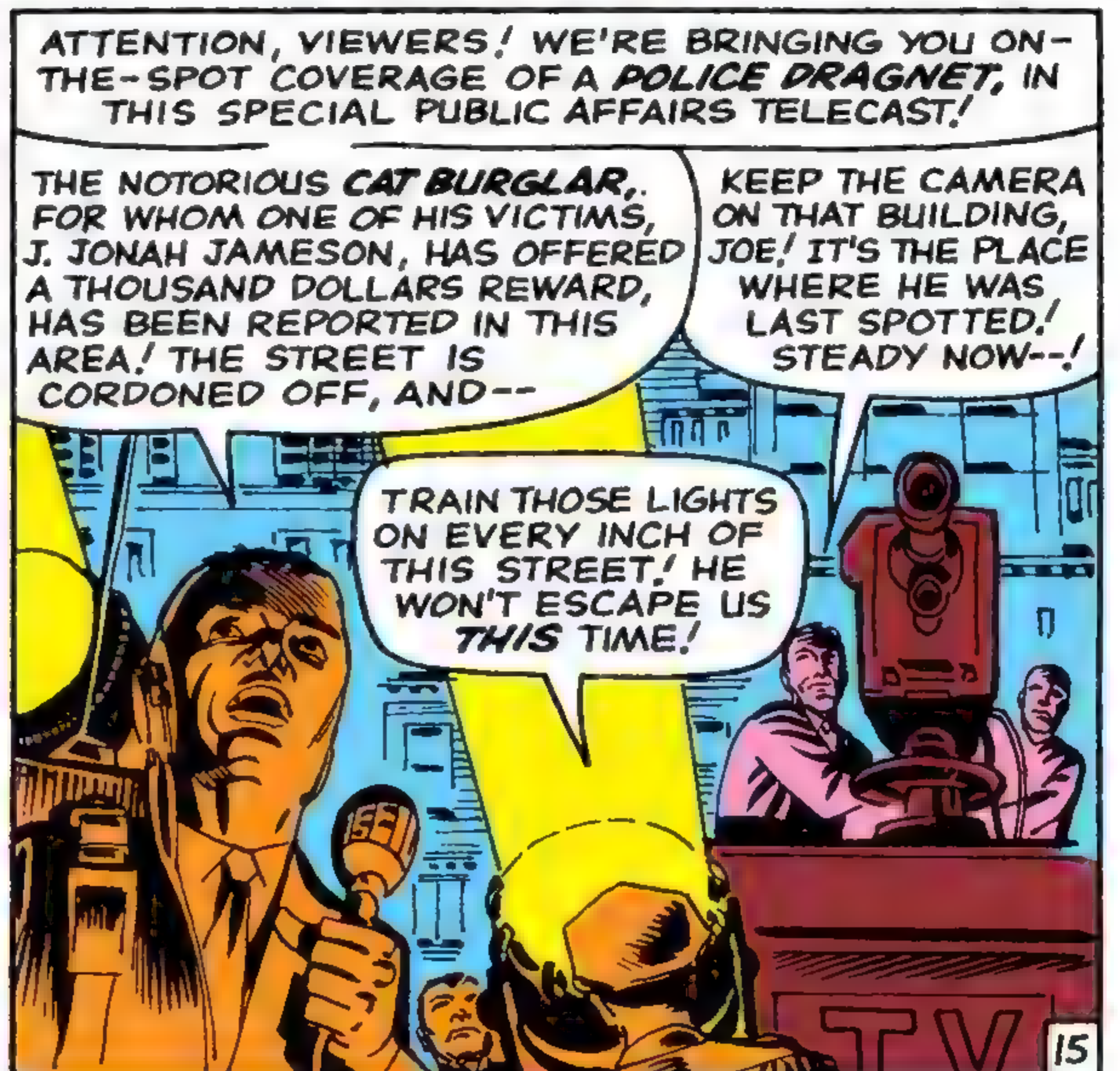
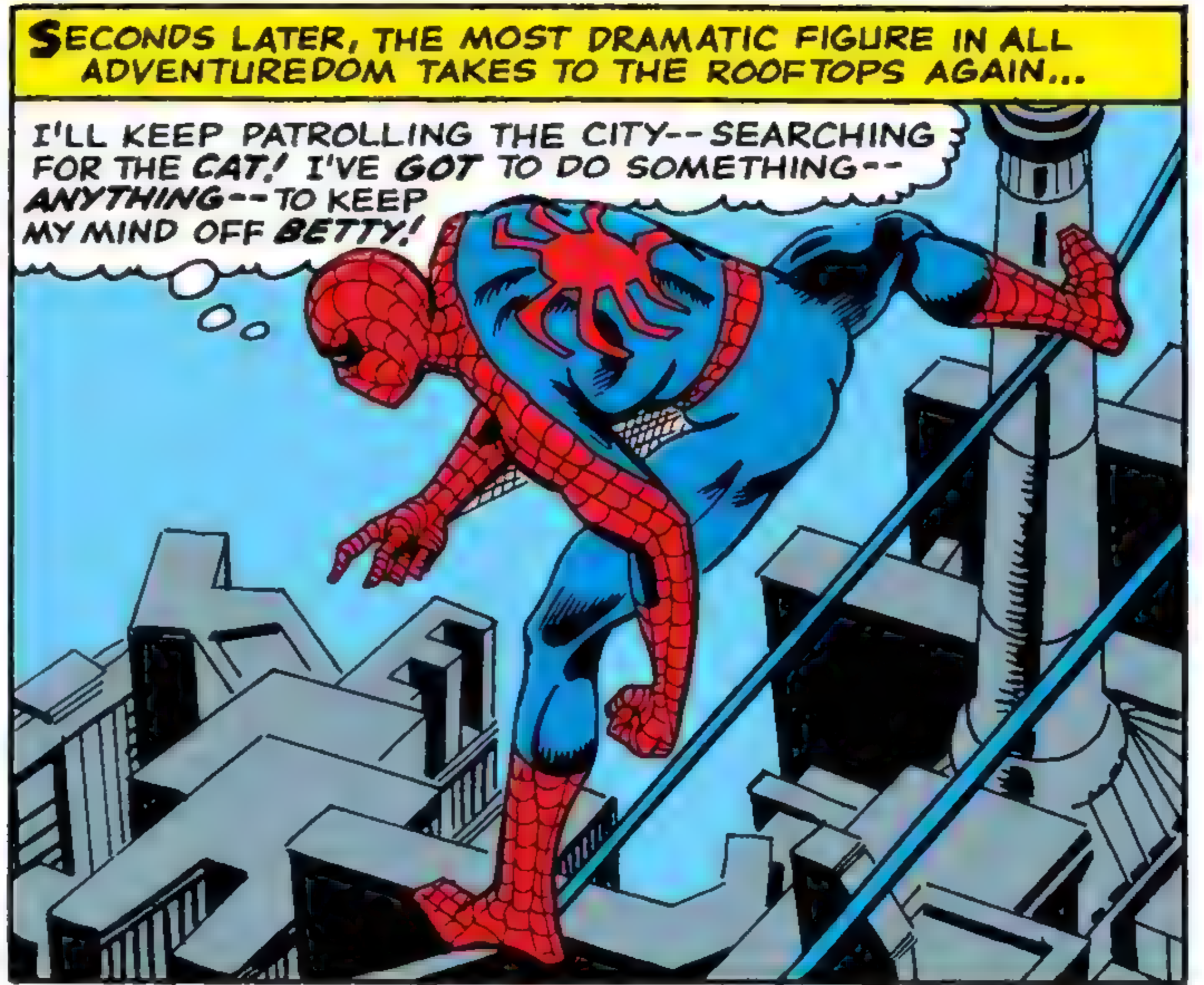


YEP! THAT'S WHAT I'LL DO! I'LL GRAB ME A BUNDLE, AND THEN SETTLE DOWN AND DREAM UP A PLAN TO GET RID OF SPIDER-MAN!



LESSEE NOW --WHERE'S THE ONE PLACE THEY'D LEAST EXPECT THE CAT TO STRIKE-- ??





AND, ALONE IN HIS OFFICE, J. JONAH SETTLES BACK WITH A HAPPY HEART, FOR THE FIRST TIME IN HOURS...

AHHH -- I'VE GOT IT MADE NOW! THERE'S THE CAT, TRYING TO DODGE THE SPOTLIGHTS!

HE HASN'T GOT A CHANCE!

WAIT A MINUTE!!! THE LIGHTS HAVE PICKED UP ANOTHER FIGURE!

IT LOOKS LIKE-- IT-IT CAN'T BE-- ULP-- IT IS! IT'S SPIDER-MAN!

GET AWAY FROM THERE!! QUIT BUTTING IN! IT'S NOT YOUR FIGHT! GO AWAY!!

WHY DID THIS HAPPEN TO ME? EVERYTHING WAS GOING SO WELL!! WHY AM I ALWAYS PLAGUED BY THAT WEB-HEAD?? WHY? WHY? WHY??

WITHER THOU GOEST, I GO, PUSSYCAT!

OF ALL THE CRUMMY LUCK! AS IF IT'S NOT BAD ENOUGH HAVING THE POLICE ON MY TAIL, NOW I'VE GOT SPIDER-MAN CHASING AFTER ME! I'LL HAVE TO OUTSMART HIM, SOMEHOW!

HAH! YOU DIDN'T EXPECT ME TO TURN SO SUDDENLY AND SHINE A BLINDING BEAM IN YOUR EYES!!

TO TELL THE TRUTH, LOUD-MOUTH-- I DIDN'T!

I WAS CARELESS! THE CAT IS NOBODY'S FOOL!

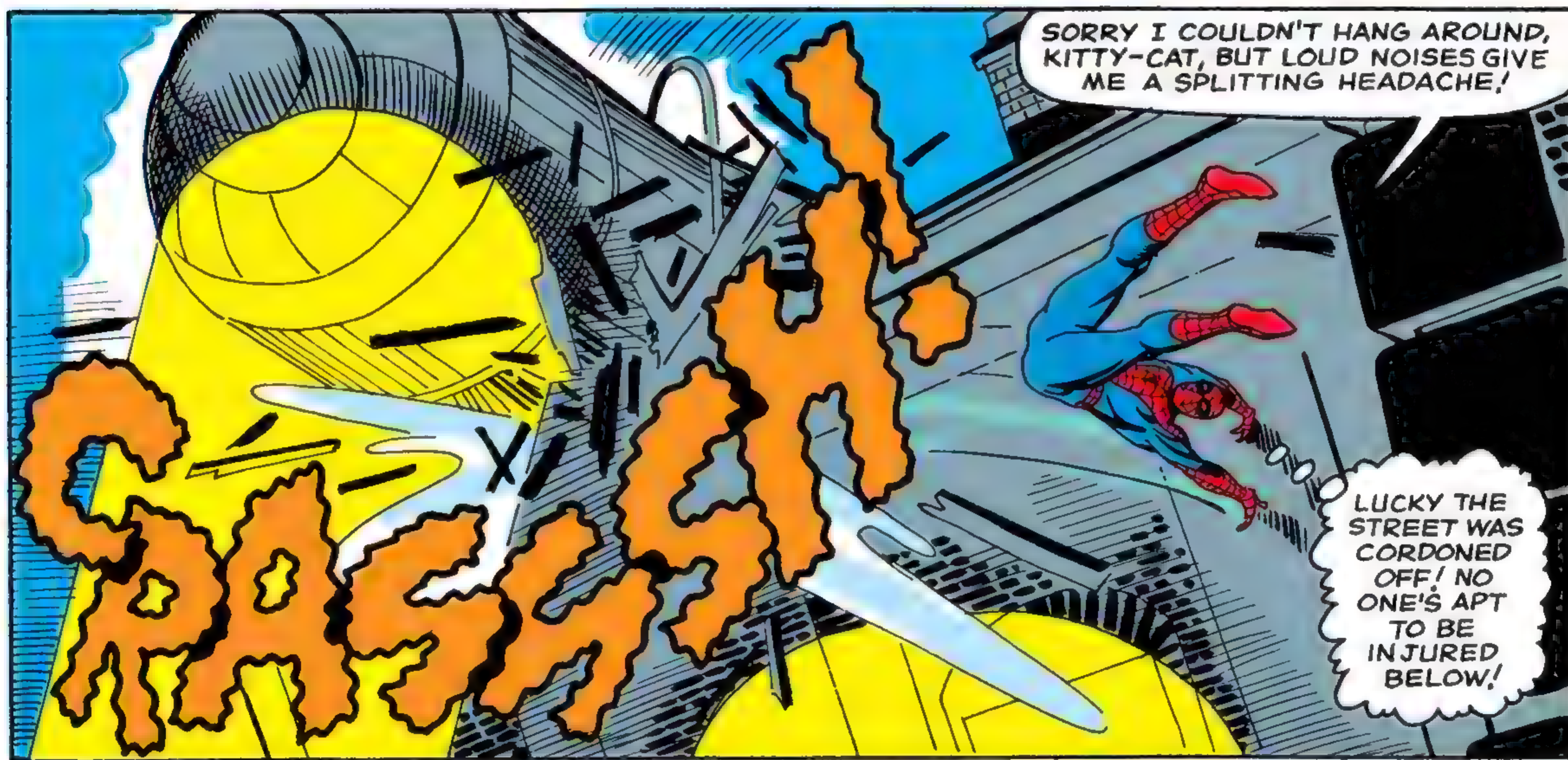
HE'S SWINGING A ROPE AT ME-- WITH A GRAPPLING HOOK AT ONE END!

I'VE GOT TO DODGE IT, EVEN THOUGH THE SUDDEN MOVE WILL SEND ME HURLING OVER THE LEDGE!

HAH! THE GREAT SPIDER-MAN, DEFEATED BY A SIMPLE EVERY-DAY DEVICE WHICH I USE IN PLYING MY "TRADE"!!!

DEFEATED?? BITE YOUR TONGUE, CHUM! I'LL BE BACK FOR MORE PLAYTIME BEFORE YOU KNOW IT!

I FORGOT HOW AGILE HE IS --HOW HE CAN CLING TO WALLS!!





I *KNEW* IT!
YOU'RE
DEFINITELY
ANTI-SOCIAL!

BLAST IT! HE
MOVES LIKE
HE'S ON
STRINGS!

BUT, I'LL
GET HIM
YET!



THE ONLY REASON I'M NOT LOSING MY
TEMPER IS-- IT'S HARD TO GET ANGRY
AT SOMEONE WHO'S WORTH A
THOUSAND DOLLARS TO ME!

I'VE GOT TO
MAKE HIM USE
UP HIS AMMO,
AND THEN--
KA-POW!



CAT! THROW DOWN YOUR GUN AND SURRENDER!
YOU HAVEN'T A CHANCE!

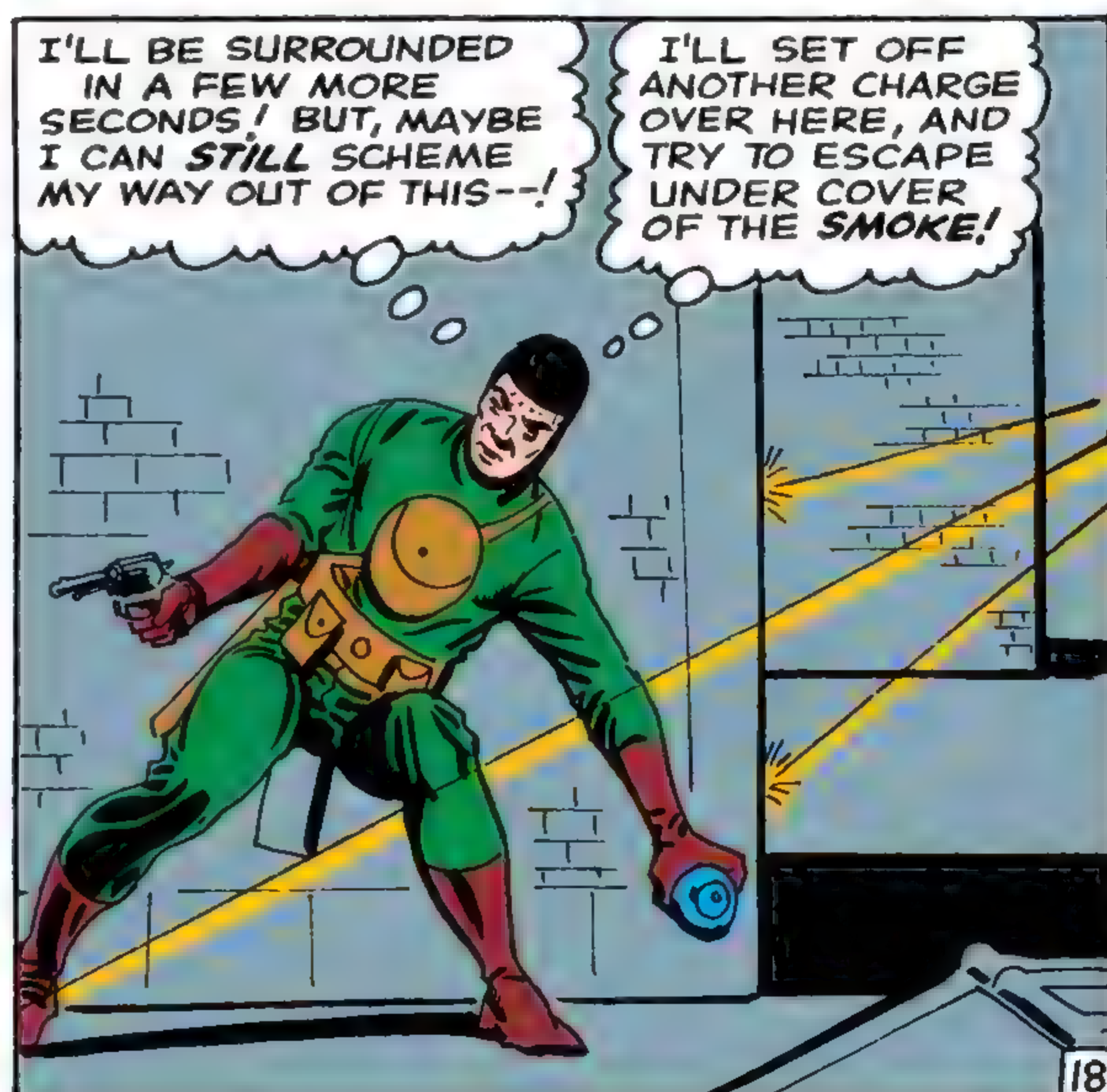
COPS!! WHILE I WAS
CONCENTRATING ON
SPIDER-MAN, THEY
MANAGED TO REACH
THE ROOFS AHEAD
OF ME!

NOW I'M
REALLY
IN FOR
IT!



THAT'S *THAT*! TOO MUCH LEAD FLYING
AROUND UP THERE FOR COMFORT!
I'LL JUST GET OUT OF THE LINE OF
FIRE FOR A WHILE!

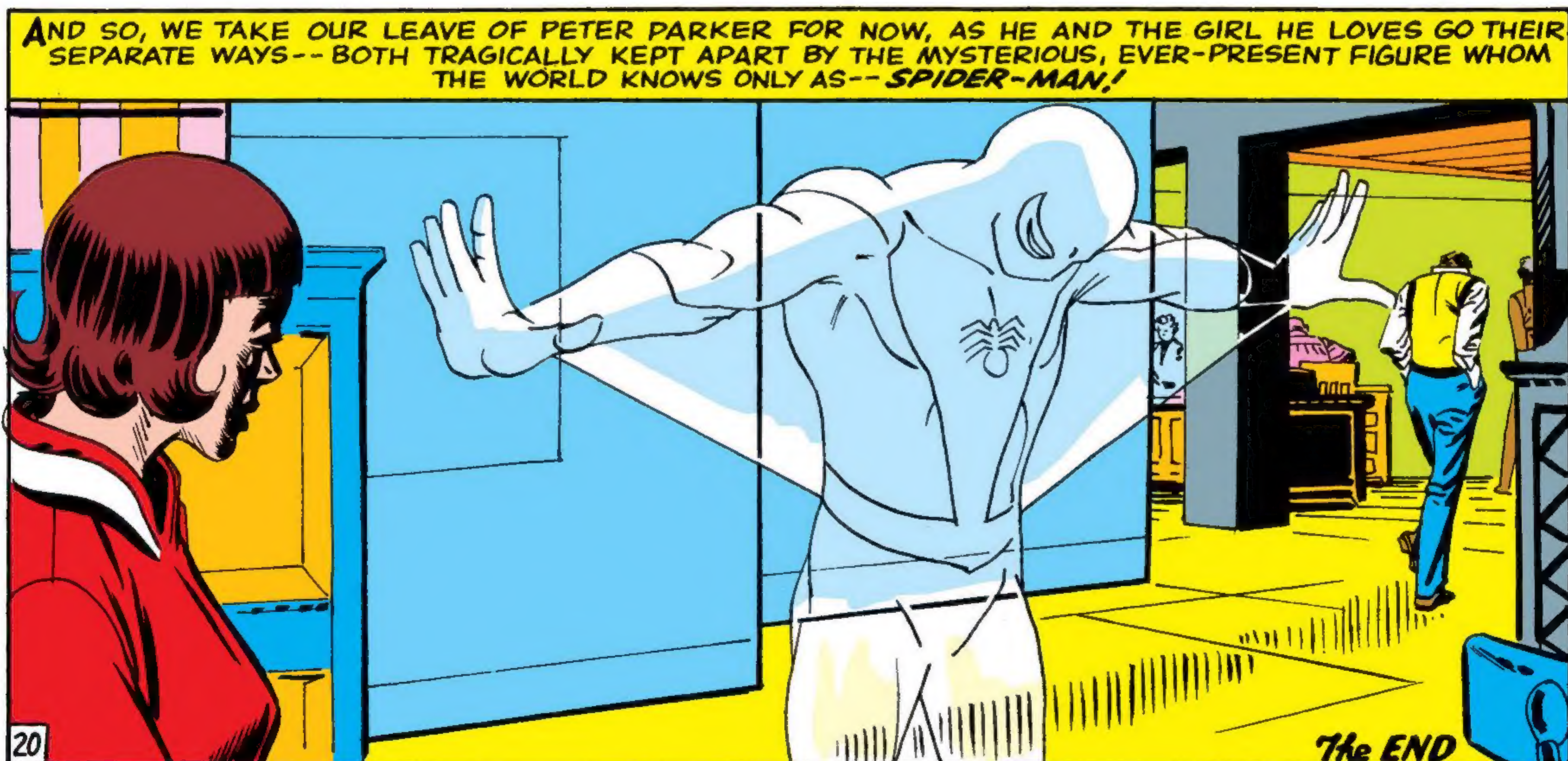
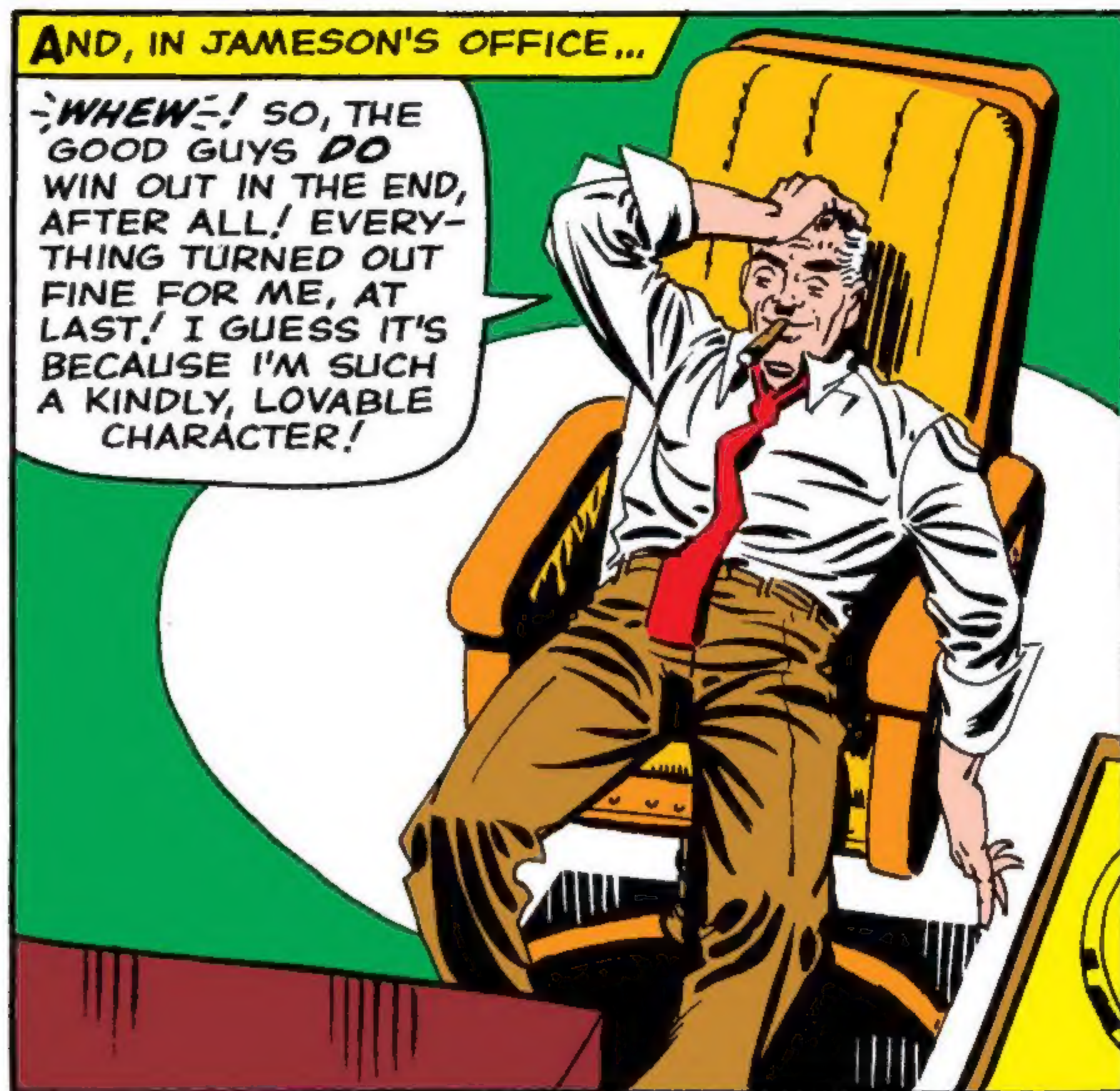
I DON'T WANNA
BE ONE OF
THOSE INNOCENT
BYSTANDERS I
SOMETIMES
READ ABOUT!



I'LL BE SURROUNDED
IN A FEW MORE
SECONDS! BUT, MAYBE
I CAN *STILL* SCHEME
MY WAY OUT OF THIS--!

I'LL SET OFF
ANOTHER CHARGE
OVER HERE, AND
TRY TO ESCAPE
UNDER COVER
OF THE *SMOKE!*







THE SPIDER'S WEB

Dear Stan and Steve,

I quit reading comics about five years ago, but one day last summer I accidentally discovered SPIDER-MAN. He was so different from the super-heroes that I was used to reading that I couldn't believe it. I tried the rest of the group and am now a fan of all your costumed crime-busters. All I can say about Stan Lee's writing is that it's the greatest. What I'm really interested in, though, is the artwork, since I'm an art major and an aspiring cartoonist. My favorites are Steve Ditko and Wally Wood. I have a couple of complaints about Steve, though. I don't like the way he draws females. Sometimes they are all right (like that white-haired chick in DR. STRANGE) but other times they're not. In SPIDEY #24 Liz Allen looked like a 30-year old woman in a couple of panels. I also wish that Flash Thompson would change his sweater and that Betty and Liz would develop better taste in clothes. Other than that, Steve Ditko is terrific. Jack Kirby is a master at drawing super-scientific machinery, exotic locales, and fight scenes, but his figures sometimes fail to satisfy. His best work is in TALES OF AS-GARD. Don Heck and Bob Powell do very good illustrating. Keep up the good work, because in my humble opinion, Marvel is the best company in the business.

Larry Goka, Michigan State University
East Lansing, Mich.

That's no humble opinion, Larry. You've just proven that you know the best when you see it, boy! But, one thing's buggin' us—you didn't say *what* business!

—By now, practically all of you are mirthful Merry Marchers, all resplendent in your colorful Marvel T-shirts and writing up a storm with your swingin' Marvel stationery! But, if you've been wondering what little goodies we're gonna come up with for you next, be of stout heart! We're working on a zillion new gimmicks, and as soon as we get them ironed out, you'll see that the House of Ideas hasn't lost its Marvel-ous touch! (Imagine what we'd say if we were the boastful type!)

Dear Stan and Steve,

Recently, I was looking through a MAD magazine when I just happened to see a Department entitled, "Seeing Isn't Always Believing." It was about the way newspapers print photos that don't tell the whole story. The name of the newspaper in the magazine just happened to be called the Daily Bugle! How J.J.J. ever convinced Alfred E. Neuman to plug his newspaper I don't know! Three cheers for J.J.J.!

Manuel Palau, 4701 Fordham Rd.
College Park, Md. 20740

So! Now we have fans cheering for Jonah! Next, some of you will be proposing the Green Goblin and Scorp for membership in the M.M.M.S.! (Of course, if they pay their dues, why not—?)

Dear Stan,

I've been following SPIDER-MAN ever since its conception and I felt the quality of its stories was far above any other. But now my faith is faltering. You have cluttered this mag up with insignificant hoods! The Green Goblin, Frederick Foswell, and Jonah's Robot were pretty silly! Please get off this kick. His fighting the Hulk, the Avengers, Dr. Doom, and his joining with Daredevil all were excellent. To compare the crumb called the Crime-Master or one of those Masters of Menace to these epics is futile. Bring back the Scorpion—he was great! Let's see some guest appearances by Spidey. I would like to thank you for your past issues. I enjoyed them all but lately you've been giving us a soap opera!

Richard McCabe, 368 63rd St.
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11220

You may be right, Rich. As soon as the comments about your letter start pouring in we'll know for sure. But, till then, we don't know nothin'—as usual!

Dear Stan and Steve,

You're beginning to turn SPIDER-MAN into a love mag! I'm not against love but it takes up half the mag. Let me give you an example! Liz: "Hello Petey, Good-bye, Petey, Your tie's crooked, Petey"! Peter: "Hello, Liz, Meet Betty Brant. . . . Of course, Liz. . . . Sure, Betty." Betty: "Hello, Miss Allen—yes, we've met—good-bye, Miss Allen." Yeesh! In SPIDER-MAN #25 the action didn't start until page 11. That's pretty far to read before you find some excitement! So, I'm for no more love, I'm for action!

Carey Bert, 2122 Milburn Blvd.
Mishawaka, Ind.

Listen, Carey,—any guy who thinks that "Hello, Petey, your tie's crooked, meet Betty Brant, good-bye, Miss Allen" represents *love* would certainly prefer action! So, we're with ya all the way, pal!

THE MIGHTY MARVEL CHECKLIST

A Line-Up Of Some Of The Marvel-ous Mags On Sale Right Now!

FANTASTIC FOUR #44: The one you've been waiting for! The first tale ever told of the F.F. after Reed and Sue are married! With a brand-new super-villain, all-new problems, and the return of—aw, why say more? It's the greatest yet!

AVENGERS #21: This is the one! The new Avengers have been mighty successful so far, but now—they suffer their first defeat! We can't tell you any more now without ruining the dramatic surprises—but don't dare miss it!

X-MEN #13: Of all the super-villains since time immemorial, possibly none have ever equalled the Juggernaut in sheer power or stark savagery! And now, he faces the seemingly helpless X-men!

DAREDEVIL #10: A real collector's item! On a dare, Stan let Wally Wood write this one, and it's the most off-beat mystery in years! Wait'll you see the far-out super-villains and the panicky plot twists! Sure to be talked-about everywhere!

THOR #121: Possibly the greatest action scenes of all! You'll never forget the staggering battle between Thor and the Absorbing Man! It's King Kirby at his powerful best, revealing all the power and majesty of the God of Thunder!

STRANGE TALES #138: We don't want to say too much about Nick Fury, Agent of Shield, because this mag has been selling so fast that we can't print enough copies each month! So, we'll tell you that the Dr. Strange yarn is entitled: "If Eternity Should Fail"—and it'll STILL sell-out!

SUSPENSE #71: You must not miss Iron Man's greatest triumph! It's the most heart-warming, satisfying conclusion we've ever presented! As for Captain America, George Tuska's artwork will leave you breathless! We kid you not!

ASTONISH #73: Who says lightning doesn't strike twice? The Sub-Mariner has become as big a hit as Agent of Shield! And wait'll you see what happens to poor Dorma in this ish! As for the Hulk, if sending him to another planet doesn't whet your appetite, we give up!

SGT. FURY #23: Another Marvel first! Fury fights in Burma—while you learn the secret of Percy Pinkerton's past for the first time! (And you'll never forget the gentle, courageous Sister Theresa!) An unusually powerful epic!

Dear Stan and Steve,

I just bought and read SPIDER-MAN #'s 24 and 25 and I don't know which one I liked best. They were both great. Well, since I have just read them both I might as well compare the two. #24 had the best cover. I loved the shading on Spidey's uniform. I almost went mad just looking at it! At first I thought I was holding it upside down, so I turned it over. Then, to my dismay, I found that the first page was printed upside down. So, I closed and tried again only to find that the whole thing was sideways! At this moment I got a headache and dropped the magazine. When I retrieved it from under my desk I found that the cover had

disappeared! I found out soon that I was looking at the back cover. For a while, I thought that you had written the story backwards. Finally, I threw the mag down in frustration and sat at my desk brooding. I finally figured out that the Code Authority seal is usually in the upper right hand corner and took it from there. Well, the story was terrific! I got a big laugh out of the top panel on page 14 where you have Dr. Rinehart sitting on the ceiling with the words in the word balloon upside-down. A riot! I was really surprised to see that Mysterio was behind it all. Y'know, I was waiting for just one picture showing Spidey clobbering J.J.J. in the mouth! Just one picture . . . #25 was neat! Love that title. That could have all kinds of possibilities! First of all, I like the beginning because it started right where the last one left off. I thought I would flip when Betty and Liz came to the door at the same time. I also like the mysterious Mary Jane. I hope we can see her some time. She must be something to make Flash turn his head. That boy's got good taste—look at Liz!! The plot in this issue was quite the same as #24 up till the end. I was afraid that Prof. Smyth would turn out to be Mysterio again and I couldn't stand that. Here is a list of the things I would like Spidey to do in the near future: 1) Punch J.J.J. in the mouth! 2) Team up with Torch and Ice-Man at the same time. 3) Battle Prince Namor. 4) Make a final choice between Liz and Betty. 5) Get into college. 6) Battle the Beast.

Jack Harris, 206 Oakwood, Rd., Fairfax
Wilmington, Delaware

We're glad you got a laugh out of that upside-down panel, Jackie—except Stan didn't know it was supposed to be funny! As for your list of things for Spidey to do—Chee! It's almost as long as the shopping list Aunt May sometimes gives him! How'd you like it if Spidey gave you a list of things to do? In fact, that's not a bad idea. Maybe some time in the future, we'll have a page of letters from Webhead to all of you! But don't hold your breath waiting—he's kinda busy these days—as you may have noticed!

—We've mentioned it so often, we just can't go into detail about it again, but we do want to remind you that all our adorable ANNUALS are now on sale! They include: The frankly fabulous FANTASTIC FOUR ANNUAL blockbuster—the SPIDER-MAN ANNUAL knockout—the THOR ANNUAL epic—the SGT. FURY ANNUAL ring-a-ding-aroo—and the MARVEL TALES ANNUAL lol-lapalooza! We won't mention the MILLIE THE MODEL ANNUAL, because we don't think you'll be too interested! (Who says we can't write with restraint!)

Dear Stan and Steve,

Just a note to compliment you on the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN. From the very first it has been your best effort in the present era of pop-art magazines. I am now working on the DEW line in Alaska in an area which is just about as isolated as any spot on the earth. Because of my remote location, I have to subscribe to all your marvelous mags. (There just are not enough supermarkets on DEW line sites.) Well, so long, gang. I just received my M.M.M.S. kit and I have to go listen to that crazy record.

Ronald Dickinson c/o FEC Box 487
Fairbanks, Alaska

Hope you enjoy it, Ron. (Although, for any guy who'd subscribe to all our mags, we oughtta get Spidey to go up North and recite it to you personally!)

Dear Stan and Steve,

SPIDEY 26 was your best effort yet. There was not a fault in the entire book. I will dissect it to show you what I mean. First, the cover—it was forcefully dramatic, and I was glad that you didn't ruin it by plastering it with

mighty Marvel wisecracks and slogans. Next, the artwork—it was beautifully drawn. My favorite art work panels were on pages 12, 13, and 19. Thirdly, the plot—it was stupendous. The idea of a super-hero who has no costume and has to buy one at a costume store is deliciously different. I am glad to see that Peter proved he wasn't an egg-head when he attacked the group of boys on page 7. Liz's getting mad at Peter is good, since it will prevent further competition between Liz and Betty. So, in the mighty Marvel tradition, I will utter those romantic words while a trio of spiders play violins—'nuff said!

Andrew Goldwasser, 1018 Bendermere Ave.
Wanamassa, NJ.

'Nuff said? Whatever on earth does *that* mean?

Dear Stan and Steve,

I read SPIDER-MAN #26 and it was pretty good. I say "pretty good" because it could have been much better. Also, there is one request which I want to make known to you. After revealing the story behind Frederic Foswell in issue #27, get rid of this mystery jazz. In #26 there was not enough action. I almost dozed off. I hope you don't bring back old super-villains. Instead, I hope you dream up new ones. Even though I stated that the story could have been better, I think the art work was superb. The cover was especially good. One fan stated that he liked your competitors' mags better than yours. If so, how come he buys Marvel?? And as for competitors, fellas, you don't have any!

Edward Fabrega, 13-20 137th St.
College Point, N.Y.

We know it, Ed — and you know it — but *somebody's* publishing all those mags we see on sale—after ours are sold out!

Dear Stan and Steve,

SPIDER-MAN #26 was great! Let Spidey find his costume, because nothing but the real thing is good enough for him. Besides he stuck himself enough times with the needle to earn it! Let's have a look at Mary Jane. From all indications she must be a knockout. In closing, I think that the Merry Marvel Marching Society should be changed to the Make Mine Marvel Society. It could still then be called the M.M.M.S.!

Vic Miller, 208 Park Ave.
Somerdale, N.J.

It took us all this time to learn what M.M.M.S. stands for, Vic—and now you're trying to confuse us again! But, tell you what—if we ever form a new club, who knows—?

Dear Stan and Steve,

SPIDER-MAN #26 was a masterpiece! The quality of your stories is beginning to rise after a sharp drop between #s 6 to 24. "The Man in the Crime-Master's Mask" was as good as #9 and #10, my favorites. Even the art was good—there weren't any turned-up feet! But the main reason I was truly overjoyed was the fact that the story had a plot to it. Issues #16 to 24 had no real plots, except for #s 18 to 20. All there were in these issues were fights, with Spider-Man winning. I know this isn't Stan's fault. He has to write so many scripts each month that he's doing very well managing to get all the stories out! But for real Marvel magic, SPIDER-MAN #26 can't be topped!

Tommy Hickman, 401 N.E. 6th St.
Tulsa, Texas

Oh no? What did you think of 27—and 28—and 29—eh, Tom?

—Here's your chance to prove how loyal you are to ol' Spidey! Without us telling you anything about next ish, let's see if you'll all be sure to buy it! Remember, we're putting you to a test now—for all you know, we may be scoring you! Anyway, till we meet again next month, keep your webs untangled and your spirits high—and be sure to wave when we all march by! Face front!